ICANN Specific Reviews Q1 2023 Quarterly Report

- *Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review (CCT)*
- *Second Registration Directory Service Review (RDS-WHOIS2)*
- *Third Accountability and Transparency Review (ATRT3)*
- *Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency of the DNS Review (SSR2)*

31 March 2023

Purpose of This Document

The purpose of this document is to provide an update on the status of Specific Reviews at the end of the first calendar quarter of 2023, including but not limited to:
- The status of, and progress made in implementing Board-approved Specific Reviews recommendations.
- The status of recommendations pending prioritization.
- The status of recommendations pending Board consideration.

This report contains information on the implementation strategy and plans for those recommendations in "in progress" and "not started" status.

The quarterly report complements the Annual Reviews Implementation Report (included in the [Annual Report](#)) and serves to capture implementation highlights as the ICANN organization (org) progresses through implementation.

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Specific Reviews

ICANN's four Specific Reviews are anchored in Article 4.6 of ICANN's Bylaws[1] and serve to assess how certain aspects of the ICANN ecosystem are performing, including how the ICANN org, Board, and community fulfill various commitments. Specific Reviews are critical to maintaining a healthy multistakeholder model.

The review efforts are conducted by community members and supported by ICANN org. The Operating Standards for Specific Reviews provide more information on the Reviews process.

Accountability and Transparency Review **ATRT**	Periodic review of ICANN's execution of its commitment to maintain and improve robust mechanisms for public input, accountability, and transparency so as to ensure that the outcomes of its decision-making reflect the public interest and are accountable to the Internet community.
Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review **CCT**	Review of the extent to which the expansion of generic top-level domains (gTLDs) has promoted competition, consumer trust, and consumer choice. It also assesses the effectiveness of the New gTLD Round's application and evaluation process, as well as the safeguards put in place to mitigate possible issues arising from the New gTLD Round.
Registration Directory Service Review **RDS**	Periodic review of the effectiveness of the gTLD registry directory service and whether its implementation meets the legitimate needs of law enforcement, promotes consumer trust, and safeguards registrant data.
Security, Stability, and Resiliency Review **SSR**	Periodic review of ICANN's execution of its commitment to enhance the operational stability, reliability, resiliency, security, and global interoperability of the systems and processes that are affected by the Internet's system of unique identifiers that ICANN coordinates.

The ICANN Board of Directors performs oversight of all Specific Reviews through its Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC). The OEC is supported by Board caucus groups dedicated to each Review.

As summarized in the table below, ICANN org has conducted multiple iterations of the Specific Reviews over the years. The most recent four review efforts have now concluded, and the Board has taken action[2] on all final reports.

The Board has placed a set of recommendations from some Specific Reviews in pending status, as documented below. The Board is committed to taking further action on the

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[1] Specific Reviews originate from the Affirmation of Commitments (AoC) document ICANN org signed with the United States Department of Commerce in 2009. Further to a recommendation made by the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (Work Stream 1), AoC Reviews were incorporated into ICANN's Bylaws in May 2016 as a result of the IANA Stewardship Transition.
[2] As stipulated in Section 4.6 of ICANN's Bylaws, the Board is required to take action on a review team's final report within six months of receipt.

pending recommendations as soon as data and/or information required to inform Board action (as respectively documented in the scorecards[3] associated with Board actions) have been collected, or dependencies have been appropriately resolved or addressed.

Review	Iteration	# of Board-Approved Recommendations	# of Recs. Pending Board Consideration
Accountability and Transparency Review	**ATRT3**	15	N/A
	ATRT2 [ARCHIVED]		
	ATRT1 [ARCHIVED]		
Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review	**CCT**	17	6
Registration Directory Service[4] Review	**RDS-WHOIS2**	15	4
	WHOIS1 [ARCHIVED]		
Security, Stability, and Resiliency Review	**SSR2**	23	10
	SSR1 [ARCHIVED]		

Status of Specific Reviews Recommendations

To inform implementation planning and design, the recommendations considered eligible for prioritization were submitted to the community prioritization group for feedback. The Appendix E: Prioritization Process contains more details on this process.

The number of Board-approved Specific Reviews recommendations pending prioritization is set out in the table below. Recommendations in this category, including rationale for status, are stated in the relevant review sections below.

Review	Iteration	Total # of Board-Approved Recs.	# of Board-Approved Recs. Pending Prioritization
Accountability and Transparency Review	**ATRT3**	15	/
	ATRT2 [ARCHIVED]		
	ATRT1 [ARCHIVED]		

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[3] When taking action on consensus recommendations emerging from a Specific Review, Board action structures its determination and rationale for each recommendation via a scorecard that allows for ease of reference.
[4] The Registration Directory Service Review was formerly known as "WHOIS Policy Review," shortened to "WHOIS." For any subsequent review effort, as appropriate, the review effort will be renamed to RDS with RDS3 being the new acronym.

Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review	**CCT**	17	/
Registration Directory Service Review	**RDS-WHOIS2**	15	4 (currently ineligible for prioritization)
	WHOIS1 [ARCHIVED]		
Security, Stability, and Resiliency Review	**SSR2**	23	4 (including two ineligible for prioritization)
	SSR1 [ARCHIVED]		

The Cross-Functional Project Team is following its implementation design to complete Board approved Specific Reviews recommendations. See Appendix F: Cross-Functional Project Team on Implementation of Specific Reviews for more information.

The implementation of Specific Reviews benefits from use of the Supplemental Fund for Implementation of Community Recommendations (SFICR) which the Board approved in November 2022.

Implementation status, and associated color-coding, of recommendations should be understood as follows:

- Complete: a recommendation implemented in full and for which implementation documentation is available.

- In progress: a recommendation for which work has started to address deliverables identified during the implementation design.

- Not started: Work has not started because of a dependency on another recommendation and/or process.

The table below provides an overview of the status of prioritized and non-prioritized Specific Reviews recommendations, at a glance:

Implementation Status of Board-Approved Specific Reviews Recommendations / Recommendation Components – Q1-2023 Status	ATRT3	CCT	RDS-WHOIS2	SSR2	# of Recs.
Implementation complete	4	5	8	11	28
Implementation in progress	10	12	2	7	31
Implementation not started	1	0	5	5	11
Number of Recommendations / Recommendation Components	15	17	15	23	70

This progress translates into the following percentage:
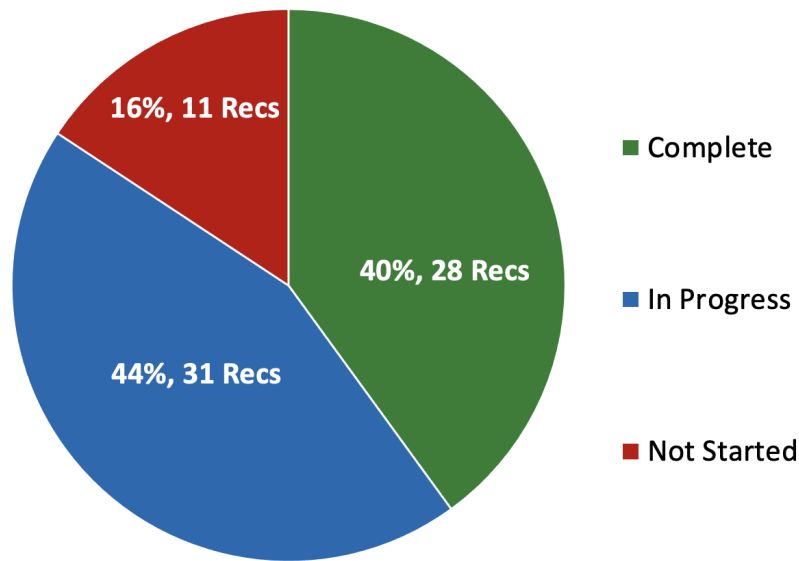
Implementation Status of Board-Approved Specific Reviews Recommendations (March 2023)

In terms of the review efforts:

Board-Approved Specific Reviews Recommendations - Recommendation Components Q1-2023 Status		
Complete[5] **(28 Recs.)**	*Third Accountability and Transparency Review*: 1.1, 1.2, 3.1, 3.3 *Competition, Consumer Trust, Consumer Choice Review*: 16, 17, 18, 30, 31 *Second Registration Directory Service Review*: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 11.2, 15.1, LE.1, LE.2, CC.3 *Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency of the DNS Review*: 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 9.1, 11.1, 16.1, 24.1, 24.2	
In Progress (31 Recs.)	*Third Accountability and Transparency Review*: 2, 3.2, 3.4, 3.5, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 5 *Competition, Consumer Trust, Consumer Choice Review*: 1, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26 *Second Registration Directory Service Review*: 3.1, CC.2 *Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency of the DNS Review*: 1.1, 5.3, 7.5, 10.1, 21.1, 22.1, 23.2	
Not Started (11 Recs.)	*To Begin (7 Recs)*	*Third Accountability and Transparency Review*: 3.6 *Second Registration Directory Service Review*: 3.2, SG.1, CC.1 *Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency of the DNS Review*: 5.4, 22.2, 23.1
	Due to Dependencies (2 Recs.)	*Second Registration Directory Service Review*: 10.2, 12.1

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[5] Recommendations with a hyperlink are those for which implementation documentation is available.

	To Be Considered Implemented Once Dependency Is Resolved (2 Recs.)	Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency of the DNS Review: 5.1, 5.2

The tables and charts below capture implementation status of recommendations:
- Prior to the kickoff of the FY23 Pilot Prioritization (April 2022).
- After the FY23 Pilot Prioritization (June 2022).
- At the end of the third quarter of 2022 (September 2022), followed by the fourth quarter of 2022 (December 2022) and first quarter of 2023 (March 2023).
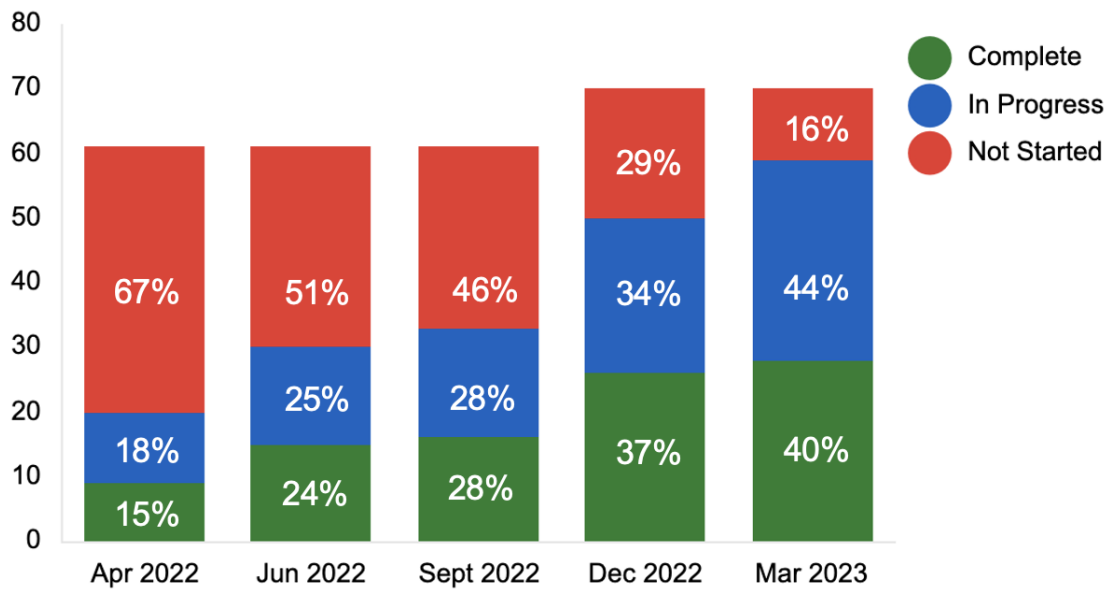
Implementation Status of Board-Approved Specific Reviews Recommendations (March 2023)

Status of Board-Approved Specific Reviews Recommendations - Q1 2023 Status	Apr 22	Jun 22	Sept 22	Dec 22	Mar 23
Complete	9	15	16	26	28
In Progress	11	15	17	24	31
Not Started	41	31	28	20	11
Number of Recommendations	61	61	61	70[6]	70

While a number of recommendations have moved to "complete" or "in progress" since the FY23 Pilot Prioritization, a number of Specific Reviews recommendations remains to be implemented by ICANN org.

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[6] On 16 November 2022, the Board took action on 21 SSR2 recommendations Board consideration.
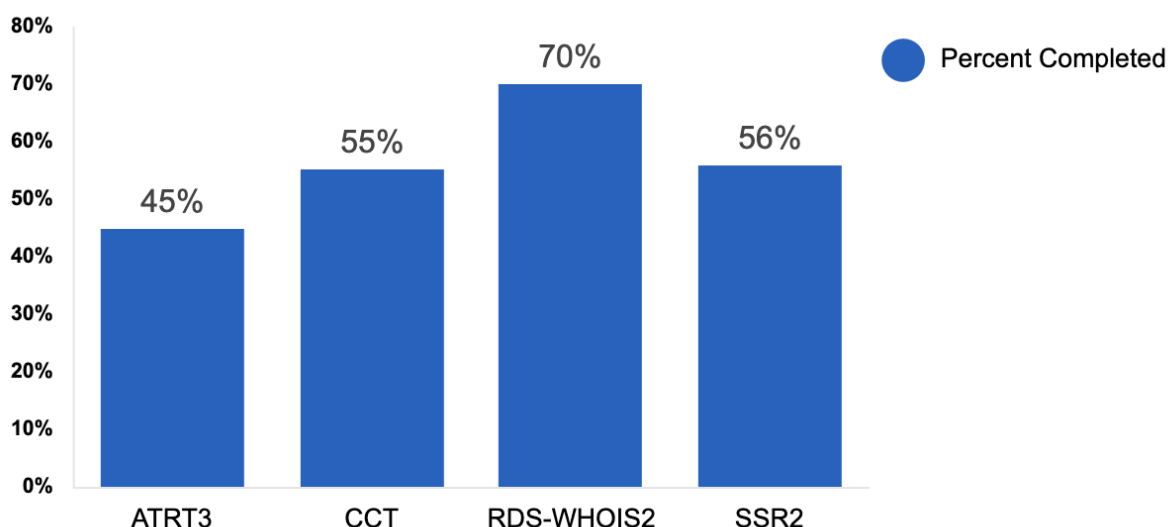
Progress of Completion[7] per Specific Review (March 2023)

In some instances, community input is needed to conduct the implementation work, as detailed in sections below.

The following tables show the recommendations that, in some instances, were divided by component to focus on the implementation effort or were regrouped into implementation buckets to streamline efforts and centralize requests made to the ICANN community. Furthermore, the table provides an overview of the expected completion dates for recommendations and their components which are in "in progress" or in "not started" status as recorded in the cross-functional project plan.

Board-Approved Specific Reviews Recommendations - Recommendation Components[8] – Q1-2023 Status				
Prioritized by the Community Group as *P1 = Highest Priority – Urgent/Important*				
Specific Review	Rec./ Components	Q4 2022 Status	**Q1 2023 Status**	Tentative Completion
ATRT3	3.2	In progress	In progress	Q4 2025
ATRT3	3.4	In progress	In progress	Q4 2025
ATRT3	3.5	In progress	In progress	Q4 2025
CCT	1	In progress	In progress	Q4 2023
CCT	8, 11, 13 (items 1, 2, 4 in part)	In progress	In progress	Q3 2023

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[7] This measures the percentage of effort toward completion of the recommendations.
[8] Note that in subsequent iterations of this report, the table will include the status of the past quarter as a point of reference and that any alterations to the tentative completion date will be reported on.

SSR2	10.1	In progress	In progress	Q2 2023
SSR2	21.1	In progress	In progress	Q1 2024
SSR2	23.2	In progress	In progress	Q4 2023

Prioritized by the Community Group as P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*				
Specific Review	Recommendations/ Components	Q4 2022 Status	**Q1 2023 Status**	Tentative Completion
ATRT3	3.6	Not started	Not started	Q4 2023
ATRT3	4.1	Not started	In progress	Q2 2024
ATRT3	4.2	Not started	In progress	Q2 2024
ATRT3	4.3	Not started	In progress	Q2 2024
ATRT3	4.4	Not started	In progress	Q2 2024
ATRT3	4.5	Not started	In progress	Q2 2024
CCT	6	Not started	In progress	Q4 2023
CCT	13 item 3	In progress	In progress	Q3 2023
CCT	13 (items 4 in part, 5), 20, 23 (items A, C in part, D), 24 (item B)	In progress	In progress	Q2 2024
CCT	21 item 2	In progress	In progress	Q3 2023
CCT	22	Not started	In progress	Q1 2024
CCT	23 item B	Not started	In progress	Q3 2023
CCT	26	Not started	In progress	Q2 2024
RDS-WHOIS2	SG.1	Not started	Not started	Q4 2023

Prioritized by the Community Group as P3 = *Urgent/Less Important*				
Specific Review	Recommendations/ Components	Q4 2022 Status	**Q1 2023 Status**	Tentative Completion
SSR2	23.1	Not started	Not started	Q4 2024

Prioritized by the Community Group as P4 = Less *Urgent/Less Important*				
Specific	Recommend	Q4 2022 Status	**Q1 2023 Status**	Tentative

Review	ations/ Components			Completion
ATRT3	2	In progress	In progress	Q2 2023
CCT	7	In progress	In progress	Q3 2023
RDS-WHOIS2	3.1	Not started	Not started	Q4 2023
RDS-WHOIS2	CC.1	Not started	Not started	Q3 2024
SSR2	1.1	In progress	In progress	Q2 2023
SSR2	5.4	Not started	Not started	To be determined – implementation design in progress.
SSR2	22.1	In progress	In progress	Q4 2023
SSR2	22.2	Not started	Not started	Q4 2023

Prioritized				

Specific Review	Rec./ Components	Q4 2022 Status	**Q1 2023 Status**	Tentative Completion
ATRT	5	In progress	In progress	Q2 2023

Subject to Prioritization				

Specific Review	Rec./ Components	Q4 2022 Status	**Q1 2023 Status**	Tentative Completion
SSR2	5.3	Not started	In progress	To be determined – implementation design in progress.
SSR2	7.5	Not started	In progress	To be determined – implementation design in progress.

Not Eligible for Prioritization				

RDS-WHOIS2	3.2	Not started		
RDS-WHOIS2	10.2	Not started		
RDS-WHOIS2	12.1	Not started		
RDS-	CC.2	In progress		

WHOIS2		
SSR2	5.1	Not started
SSR2	5.2	Not started

Third Accountability and Transparency Review (ATRT3)

Status of ATRT3 Review

On 30 November 2020, the Board took action to approve the five recommendations (and their 15 components) contained in the Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT3)'s Final Report. See the Board Scorecard for more information.

All recommendations were approved subject to prioritization with the exception of Recommendation 5. Recommendation 5 required the development of the prioritization process and therefore, was considered prioritized.

The ATRT3 recommendations called for updates to the requirements of ICANN's Public Comment proceedings, the creation of a community-led group tasked with operating a prioritization process, as well as changes to Specific and Organizational Reviews, including the creation of a new Holistic Review of ICANN structure, and the evolution of Organizational Reviews into Continuous Improvement Programs.

Board Action on ATRT3 – 5 Recommendations (divided into 15 components) Q1-2023 Status	
Approve	1 (Recommendation 5)
Approve subject to prioritization	4 (14 Recommendation components 1.1, 1.2, 2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5)

Refer to Appendix A: Board-Approved ATRT3 Recommendations for the full language of Board-approved recommendations.

Prioritization Status of ATRT3 Recommendations

As articulated in the table below, a set of 13 recommendation components was put forward for prioritization and prioritized in April–May 2022:

Rec. / Rec. Component	ICANN Org **Proposed Prioritization**	**Priority** Assigned by Community Group in Pilot Prioritization
1.1	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
1.2	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
2	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
3.1	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*
3.2	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*

Board Approved ATRT3 Recommendations – 15 Recommendation Components Q4-2022 Prioritization Status

3.4	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*
3.5	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*
3.6	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
4.1	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
4.2	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
4.3	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
4.4	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
4.5	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*

N/A		
Rec. / Rec. Component	**Rationale**	
3.3	Recommendation complete. See implementation documentation.	
5	Recommendation prioritized.	

Refer to Appendix A: Board-Approved ATRT3 Recommendations for recommendation language and to Implementation Status of ATRT3 Recommendations for information on the status of the recommendations.

Implementation Status of ATRT3 Recommendations

This section presents updates on implementation status of Board-approved ATRT3 Recommendations, including estimated implementation completion dates, where available, and links to implementation documentation produced by ICANN org.
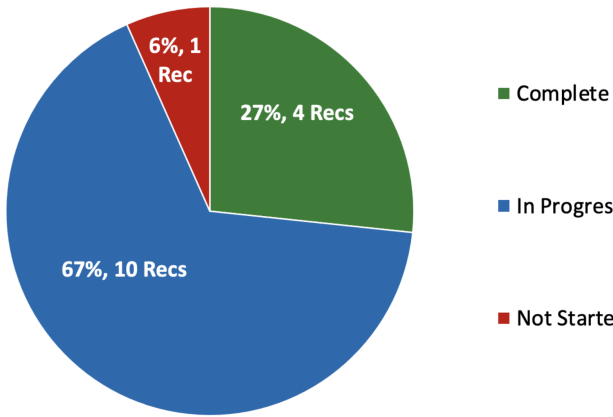
The following table shows the Q4 2022 status and its status at the conclusion of Q1 2023.

"P. Label" in the table below corresponds to the prioritization label assigned by the community group. Any recommendation or recommendation component that was not included in the prioritization process for reasons articulated in the Prioritization of Board-Approved ATRT3 Recommendations section is recorded as N/A in the "P. Label" column.

Appendix A: Board-Approved ATRT3 Recommendations contains the full text of each recommendation.

Board-Approved ATRT3 Recommendations – Recommendation Components Q4-2022 Status			
Rec. / Rec. Component	**P. Label**	**Complete**	**Implementation Information**
1.1	P2	Completed in Q3 2021	Implementation Documentation
1.2	P2	Completed in Q3 2021	Implementation Documentation
3.1	P1	Completed in Q4 2022	Implementation Documentation
3.3	N/A	Completed in Q1 2022	Implementation Documentation

Rec. / Rec. Component	P. Label	Q4 2022 Implementation Status	Q1 2023 Implementation Status	Estimated Completion Date
2	P4	In progress	In progress	~~Q1~~ Q2 2023
3.2	P1	In progress	In progress	Q4 2025
3.4	P1	In progress	In progress	Q4 2025
3.5	P1	In progress	In progress	Q4 2025
3.6	P2	Not started	Not started	Q4 2023
4.1	P2	Not started	In progress	Q2 2024
4.2	P2	Not started	In progress	Q2 2024
4.4	P2	Not started	In progress	Q2 2024
4.4	P2	Not started	In progress	Q2 2024
4.5	P2	Not started	In progress	Q2 2024
5	N/A	In progress	In progress	~~Q1~~ Q2 2023

Pie chart:
- 6%, 1 Rec — Not Started
- 27%, 4 Recs — Complete
- 67%, 10 Recs — In Progress

Legend:
■ Complete
■ In Progress
■ Not Started

*Progress of Completion – Current vs. Planned* [9]: 2%

The overall implementation progress of Board-approved ATRT3 recommendations (March 2023) is summarized in the graph below[10].

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[9] The progress of completion current vs. planned is an indicator that is measuring "on-time delivery" by indicating whether the work is progressing according to the time frame set when the work plan was developed. This indicator is impacted by progress of the work as well as by changes to the work plan. The indicator shows negative if less work has been completed than originally time-planned. The indicator shows positive if the work completed is ahead of the original plan/schedule.

[10] This chart is not indicative of the difference in level of effort for each recommendation.
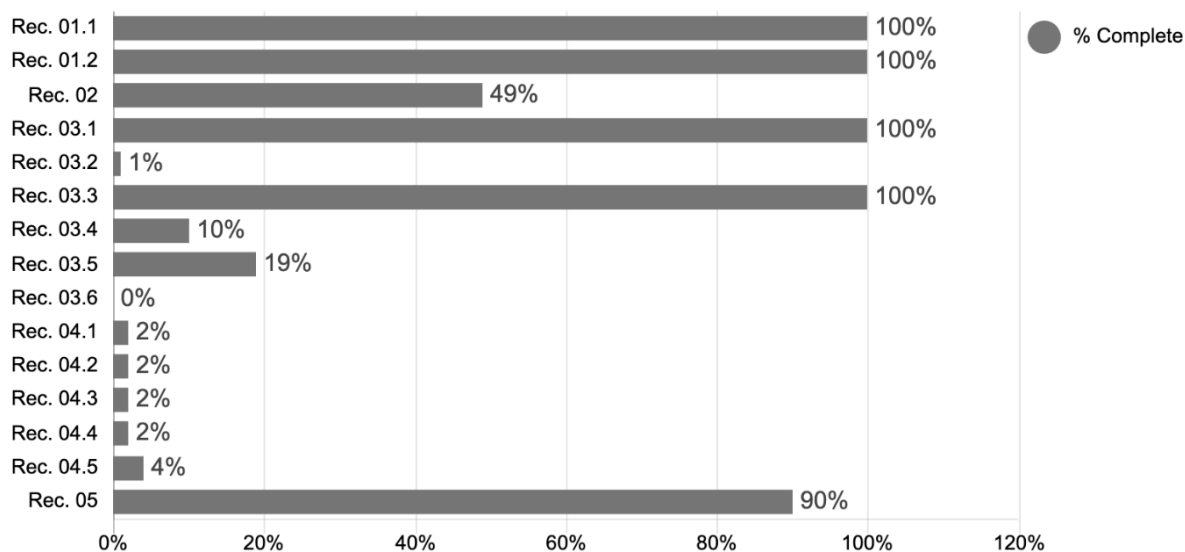
Since prioritization concluded in May 2022, progress of implementation status over past quarters in calendar year 2022, and at the conclusion of the first quarter of 2023 is as follows:
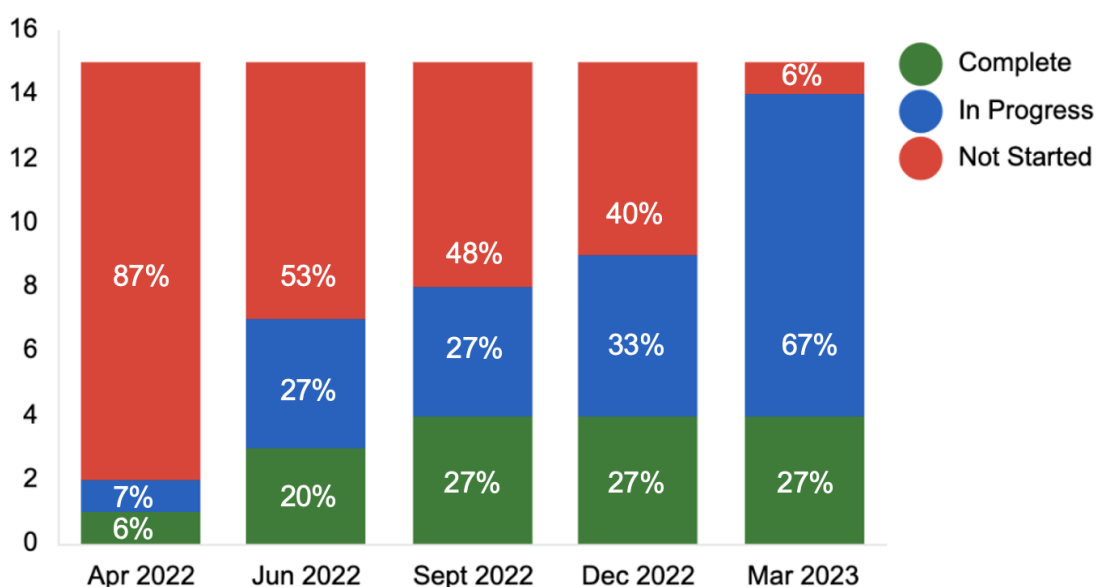
Implementation Status of Board-Approved ATRT3 Recommendations (March 2023)

Status of Board-Approved ATRT3 Recommendation Components - Q1 2023 Status	May 22	Jun 22	Sept 22	Dec 22	Mar 23
Complete	1	3	4	4	4
In Progress	1	4	4	5	9
Not Started	13	8	7	6	1

Four out of the 15 Board-approved ATRT3 recommendation components are complete:

- Labeled as P2 by the community group during prioritization, **ATRT3 Recommendations 1.1 and 1.2** identify improvements needed for collecting community feedback. During implementation design, the cross-functional project team determined ATRT3 Recommendations 1.1 and 1.2 to be complete to the extent possible, primarily through the Information Transparency Initiative launch of the new Public Comment proceeding features. Implementation activities were documented accordingly in [ATRT3 1.1–1.2 Implementation Documentation](#).

- Prioritized as P1 by the community group, **ATRT3 Recommendation 3.1** calls for future RDS Reviews to be suspended until the next ATRT can consider the future of these reviews. In September 2022, the ICANN Board [deferred](#) the third RDS Review to allow the community and ICANN org sufficient time to plan for and implement pertinent ATRT3 recommendations that were prioritized for implementation. Recognizing the Bylaws requirement that the RDS Review should be conducted every five years, the Board suspended RDS3 until the next ATRT can make a determination on future RDS reviews, as recommended in ATRT3 Recommendation 3.1. The Board will oversee the implementation of ATRT3 recommendations and determine whether the timing of the RDS3 should be re-examined based on the changing environment, including various dependencies such as the ongoing work related to the EPDP Phase 2 Final Report recommendations, including the proposed System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) (now WHOIS Disclosure System). ATRT3 Recommendation 3.1 was moved to complete accordingly. [ATRT3 3.1 Implementation Documentation](#) includes additional information and detail.

- **ATRT3 Recommendation 3.3**, which recommends suspending future Security, Stability, and Resiliency (SSR) Reviews until the next ATRT can consider the future of these reviews, was completed in March 2022, and therefore, not included in the FY23 prioritization. Activities and rationale toward the deferral of the SSR3 Review are detailed in the [ATRT3 3.3 Implementation Documentation](#).

Ten of the 15 ATRT3 recommendation components are in progress:

- Prioritized as P4 during the FY23 prioritization, **ATRT3 Recommendation 2** calls for ICANN org to re-examine ATRT3 implementation in light of the ATRT3 assessment, and to complete implementation subject to prioritization. Work started in June 2022 to address ATRT3 Recommendation 2. With the gap analysis now complete, subject matter experts were engaged, in Q1 2023, on re-labeling the implementation status of ATRT2 recommendations with accompanying rationale, and in identifying new actions, as required. ICANN org foresees the conclusions of these activities by end of Q2 2023 with the release of a report. Any action resulting from this work will be subject to prioritization, as recommended by the ATRT3.

- Work is underway to address modifications needed to Section 4.6 of the ICANN Bylaws to amend the timing, duration, and occurrence of the next CCT Review, as articulated in **ATRT3 Recommendation 3.2**. To the extent possible, the implementation of this recommendation, prioritized by the community group as P1, will be coordinated with the other modifications to the ICANN Bylaws pertaining to Specific Reviews, specifically ATRT3 recommendations 3.5 (Holistic Review) and 3.6 (Evolving Organizational Reviews into a Continuous Improvement Program). Once Bylaws amendments are approved, ICANN org will update the [Operating Standards for Specific Reviews](#) to make the required adjustments. The implementation activities of ATRT3 Recommendations 3.5 and 3.6 (see details below) may have an impact on

outcomes of ATRT3 Recommendation 3.2. Redlines to the applicable sections of the ICANN Bylaws and Operating Standards for Specific Reviews were drafted by ICANN org, ready to be implemented once all other ATRT3 recommendations that require Bylaws modifications develop further.

- Similar to ATRT3 Recommendation 3.2, **ATRT3 Recommendation 3.4** prompts amendments to ICANN's Bylaws. Work kicked off in June 2022 to begin drafting enhancements identified by the ATRT3 to the ATRT. The improvements will need to be mirrored into the [Operating Standards for Specific Reviews](#) once the Bylaws amendments are approved. The implementation activities of ATRT3 Recommendations 3.5 and 3.6 (see details below) may have an impact on outcomes of ATRT3 Recommendation 3.4 which was prioritized as a P1 recommendation. Redlines to the applicable sections of the ICANN Bylaws and Operating Standards for Specific Reviews were drafted by ICANN org, ready to be implemented once all other ATRT3 recommendations that require Bylaws modifications develop further.

- Work to identify a way forward for the first Pilot Holistic Review, derived from Board action on **ATRT3 Recommendation 3.5,** continued. A [Public Comment proceeding](#) on the Pilot Holistic Review Terms of Reference (ToR) ran from 30 August to 10 November 2022. On 12 December 2022, ICANN org published the [Public Comment Summary Report](#), which identified a lack of agreement in the community on different elements of the Holistic Review and the work outlined for the pilot within the ToR. Since the publication of the Summary Report, ICANN org has been working to support the OEC to address the public comments. During its 23 February 2023 meeting, the OEC members agreed to address the community comments by modifying the existing ToR and opening a second Public Comment proceeding. The ICANN Board remains engaged on this topic, including through the Board members participating in the work with community members to continue updating the proposed ToR for further community consideration.

- In Q1 2023, work began on **ATRT3 Recommendations 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, and 4.5.** Labeled as P2, the recommendations suggest enhancements to the accountability and transparency of ICANN's Strategic and Operating Plans. This implementation is expected to develop over multiple years and to entail assessing and leveraging the reporting mechanisms that are already complete and/or in progress to address certain elements of the recommendations. This will include the evaluation of metrics and targeted outcomes currently embedded in the Strategic and Operating Plan process and their refinement/expansion. Once the analysis is conducted, work shall be planned out, and input sought, from the org, Board Strategic Planning Committee, full Board, and community, on a proposed framework to introduce and implement a strategic planning progress measurement and reporting process for ICANN.

- As noted in the [Appendix H: Prioritization Process](#), work has been underway to address **ATRT3 Recommendation 5**, and its suggested prioritization process, since April 2021. Recommendation 5, given its nature and content, was considered prioritized from the start by ICANN org. ICANN org has worked to build prioritization into the Planning cycle through the planning prioritization framework which incorporates input received during multiple community consultations. Org ran a FY23 pilot in May 2022, a FY24 prioritization process in October–November 2022 and released [version 3](#) of the Planning Prioritization Framework in March 2023 to capture lessons learned from past iterations. Prioritization is now an integrated component into the annual planning process and will run on a set cadence.

ATRT3 Recommendation 5 also suggests the establishment of a process for retiring recommendations. ICANN org is holding internal discussions to define an appropriate retirement process that can be used for non-policy work.

One ATRT3 recommendation is in "not started" due to a dependency on an ongoing initiative:

- Prioritized as P2 by the community group, the **ATRT3 Recommendation 3.6** calls for organizational reviews[11] to be evolved into a Continuous Improvement Program. The Board directed ICANN org to initiate the development of a project plan to implement a pilot Continuous Improvement Program to ensure it yields the outcomes intended by the ATRT3 before a Bylaws amendment is completed. The cross-functional project team initially determined that a work plan would be premature, and that progression on the Pilot Holistic Review should be monitored to elaborate on, and tailor, the design and planning for the Pilot Continuous Improvement Program. Because the Pilot Holistic Review work has not yet proceeded past the ToR stage, there may be opportunities to advance the work towards a Continuous Improvement Program in a manner that will simplify the work for future Holistic Reviews. ICANN org is currently identifying a path to proceed with this recommendation and simplify the dependencies among these two related recommendations.

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[11] Organizational Reviews are anchored in Article 4.4. of the ICANN Bylaws to assess the effectiveness of ICANN's supporting organizations and advisory committees.

Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review (CCT)

Status of CCT Review

On 1 March 2019, the Board took action on the CCT Review Team's 35 consensus recommendations contained in the Final Report, as documented in the associated March 2019 Scorecard.

The Board-approved six recommendations, subject to costing and implementation considerations. In January 2020, the Board directed ICANN org to commence implementation of the approved CCT recommendations, as proposed in the Plan for Implementation[12] prepared by ICANN org, with a note that any recommendations requiring significant resources and budget would be included in the operational planning and budgeting processes, allowing for appropriate community consideration and prioritization, as applicable, of planned work.

Informed by the "Informing Board Action on CCT Pending Recommendations," assessment, the Board subsequently took action on 22 October 2020 to approve 11 of the 17 recommendations that were initially placed in pending, subject to prioritization, as detailed in the October 2020 Scorecard.

The Board-approved CCT recommendations entail requests for improved data collection, suggested reforms relating to transparency and data collection within ICANN Contractual Compliance, as well as engagement work.

Board Action on CCT – 35 Recommendations Q1-2023 Status	
Approve (in whole or in part) subject to prioritization	17 (Recommendations 1, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 16 in part, 17, 18, 20 in part, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 30, 31)
Pending Board consideration	6 (Recommendations 2, 3, 4, 5, 14, 15)
Pass-through (in whole or in part)[13] to community groups	14 (Recommendations 9, 10, 12, 16 in part, 19, 20 in part, 25, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34, 35)

Refer to Appendix B: Board-Approved CCT Recommendations for the full language of Board-approved recommendations.

Status of CCT Recommendations Pending Board Consideration

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[12] A proposed plan for implementation and set of next steps was submitted for Public Comment to inform Board approval of the plan.

[13] "In passing these recommendations through, the Board is neither accepting, nor rejecting the recommendations. For each of these recommendations, [...], the Board is careful to respect the remit and roles of the different part of the ICANN community and is not directing Board or ICANN org action that would usurp another group's remit. Each of these recommendations, either in whole or in part, calls for work or outcomes that are outside of the Board's remit to direct, and are contingent on community work. The Board is not in a position to direct that the community groups come to any particular outcome, nor is the Board initiating any policy development work."

To inform Board action on Recommendations 2, 3, 4, and 5, which call for data collection on pricing and market, ICANN org commissioned a study, as directed by the ICANN Board, "to identify what types of data would be relevant in examining the potential impacts on competition and, whether that data is available, and how it could be collected in order to benefit the work of future CCT Review Teams." Results of the study, including org's determination, will now be made available, including identification of what information is already available, in Q2 2023.

Recommendation 14 calls for the inclusion of provisions in Registry Agreements to provide incentives to adopt proactive anti-abuse measures. Recommendation 15 calls for amendments to the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) and Registry Agreement (RA) to include provisions aimed at preventing systemic use of specific registrars or registries for DNS security abuse. Both were placed in pending status in consideration of ongoing community discussions on DNS abuse. ICANN org is working on streamlining and aligning on DNS-abuse-related efforts, processing the two CCT recommendations along with other relevant Specific Reviews recommendations and advice to the Board. Q3 2023 is the tentative timeline for Board consideration of the set of DNS-abuse-related items.

Refer to Appendix D: CCT Recommendations Pending Board Consideration for the full language.

Prioritization Status of CCT Recommendations

As articulated in the table below, a set of 20 recommendation components was put forward for prioritization and prioritized in April–May 2022. Recommendations, in some instances, were sliced into components and regrouped into implementation buckets in an effort to streamline efforts and centralize requests made to the ICANN community. The Implementation Status of CCT Recommendations offers more information on the regrouping.

Board Approved CCT Recommendations – 17 Recommendations Q1-2023 Prioritization Status		
Rec. / Rec. Component	**ICANN Org Proposed Prioritization**	**Priority Assigned by Community Group in Pilot Prioritization**
1	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*
6	*P3 = Urgent/Less Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
7	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
8	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*
11	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*
13 (items 1, 2, 4 in part)	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*
13 (item 3)	*P3 = Urgent/Less Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
13 (items 4 in part, 5)	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
20	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
21 (item 2)	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*

22	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
23 (items A, C in part, D)	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
23 item B	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
24 item B	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
26	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*

N/A	
Rec. / Rec. Component	**Rationale**
16	Recommendation complete. See [implementation documentation](#).
17	Recommendation complete. See [implementation documentation](#).
18	Recommendation complete. See [implementation documentation](#).
21 (items 1, 3, 4, 5, 6)	Recommendation components complete. Implementation documentation to be produced when full recommendation completes.
23 (items C in part, E)	Recommendation components complete. Implementation documentation to be produced when full recommendation completes.
24 (item A)	Recommendation component complete. Implementation documentation to be produced when full recommendation completes.
30	Recommendation complete. Implementation documentation in progress.
31	Recommendation complete. See [implementation documentation](#).

Refer to [Appendix B: Board-Approved CCT Recommendations](#) for recommendation language and to [Implementation Status of CCT Recommendations](#) for information on the status of the recommendations.

Implementation Status of CCT Recommendations

This section provides an update on Board-approved CCT Recommendations, including estimated implementation completion dates, where available, and links to implementation documentation produced by ICANN org.

The following table shows the Q4 2022 status and its status at the conclusion of Q1 2023.

"P. label" noted in the table below corresponds to the prioritization label assigned by the community group. In some instances, recommendations were divided into components to focus on the implementation effort at hand, while others were regrouped into implementation buckets to streamline efforts and centralize requests made to the ICANN community. Any recommendation or recommendation component that was not included in the prioritization process for reasons articulated in the [Prioritization of CCT Recommendations](#) section is recorded as N/A in the "P. Label."

[Appendix B: Board-Approved CCT Recommendations](#) contains the full text of each recommendation.

Board-Approved CCT Recommendations – Recommendation Components Q1-2023 Status				
Rec. / Rec. Component	**P. Label**	**Complete**		**Implementation Information**
16	N/A	Completed in N/A		[Implementation Documentation](#)
17	N/A	Completed in N/A		[Implementation Documentation](#)
18	N/A	Completed in N/A		[Implementation Documentation](#)
30	N/A	Completed in Q1 2023		Implementation Documentation
31	N/A	Completed in Q4 2022		[Implementation Documentation](#)
Rec. / Rec. Component	**P. Label**	**Q4 2022 Implementation Status**	**Q1 2023 Implementation Status**	**Estimated Completion Date**
1	P1	In progress	In progress	~~Q2 2024~~ Q4 2023
6	P2	Not started	In progress	~~Q3~~ Q4 2023
7	P4	In progress	In progress	Q3 2023
8	P1	In progress	In progress	Q3 2023
11	P1	In progress	In progress	Q3 2023
13 items 1, 2, 4 (in part)	P1	In progress	In progress	Q3 2023
13 item 3	P2	In progress	In progress	Q3 2023
13 items 4 (in part), 5	P2	In progress	In progress	~~Q2 2023~~ Q2 2024
20	P2	In progress	In progress	~~Q2 2023~~ Q2 2024
21 items 1, 3, 4, 5, 6	N/A	Complete	Complete	Will be documented as soon as 21 item 2 completes.
21 item 2	P2	In progress	In progress	Q3 2023
22	P2	Not started	In progress	Q1 2024
23 items A, C (in part), D	P2	In progress	In progress	~~Q2 2023~~ Q2 2024
23 item B	P2	Not started	In progress	~~Q2 2023~~ Q3 2023
23 items C (in part, E	N/A	Complete	Complete	Will be documented as soon as 23 items A, B, C (in part), D complete.
24 item A	N/A	Complete	Complete	Will be documented as soon as 24 item B completes.
24 item B	P2	In progress	In progress	~~Q2 2023~~ Q2 2024
26	P2	In progress	In progress	~~Q4 2023~~ Q2 2024
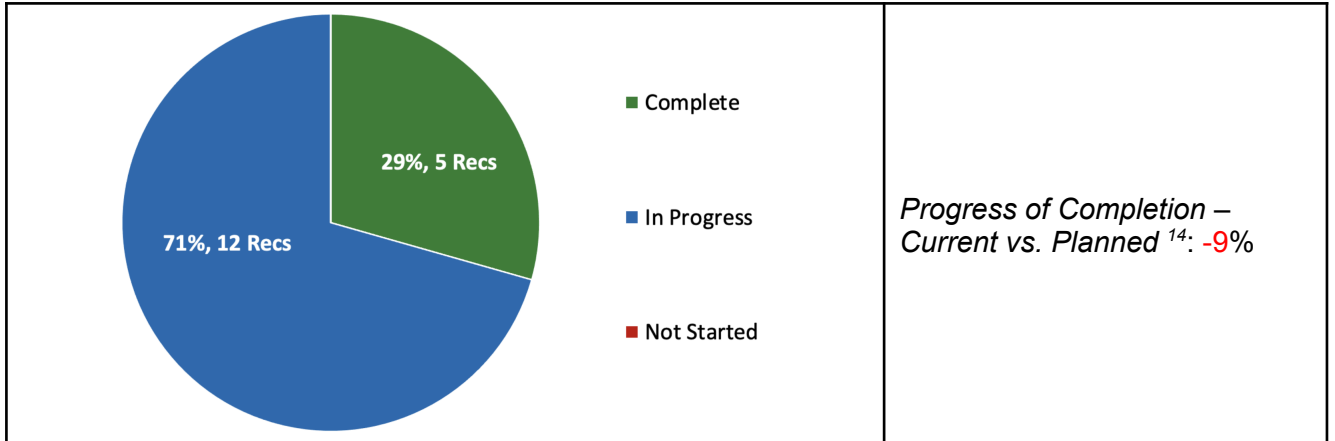
Complete

In Progress

Not Started

29%, 5 Recs

71%, 12 Recs

*Progress of Completion – Current vs. Planned* [14]: -9%

The overall implementation progress of Board-Approved CCT Recommendations (March 2023) is summarized in the graph below[15].
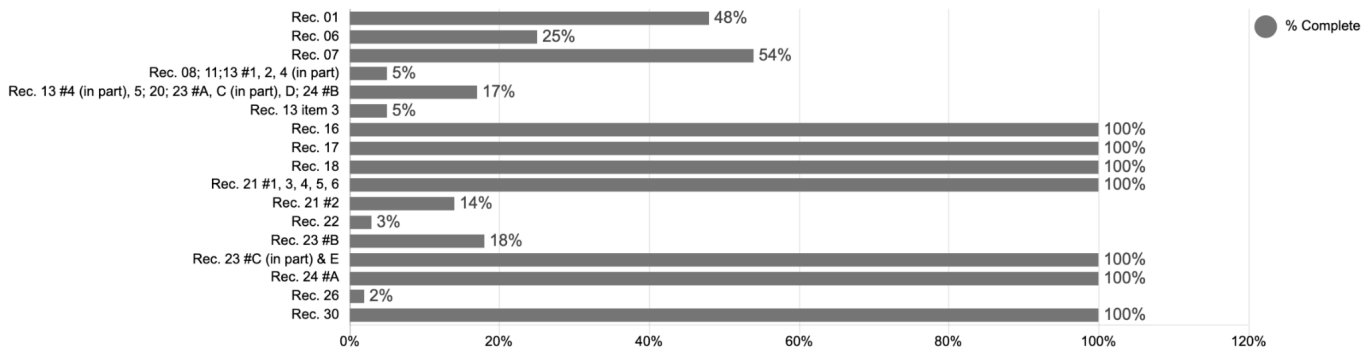
Since prioritization concluded in May 2022, progress of implementation status over past quarters in calendar year 2022, and at the conclusion of the first quarter of 2023 is as follows:

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[14] The progress of completion current vs. planned is an indicator that is measuring "on-time delivery" by indicating whether the work is progressing according to the time frame set when the work plan was developed. This indicator is impacted by progress of the work as well as by changes to the work plan. The indicator shows negative if less work has been completed than originally time-planned. The indicator shows positive if the work completed is ahead of the original plan/schedule.

[15] This chart is not indicative of the difference in level of effort for each recommendation.
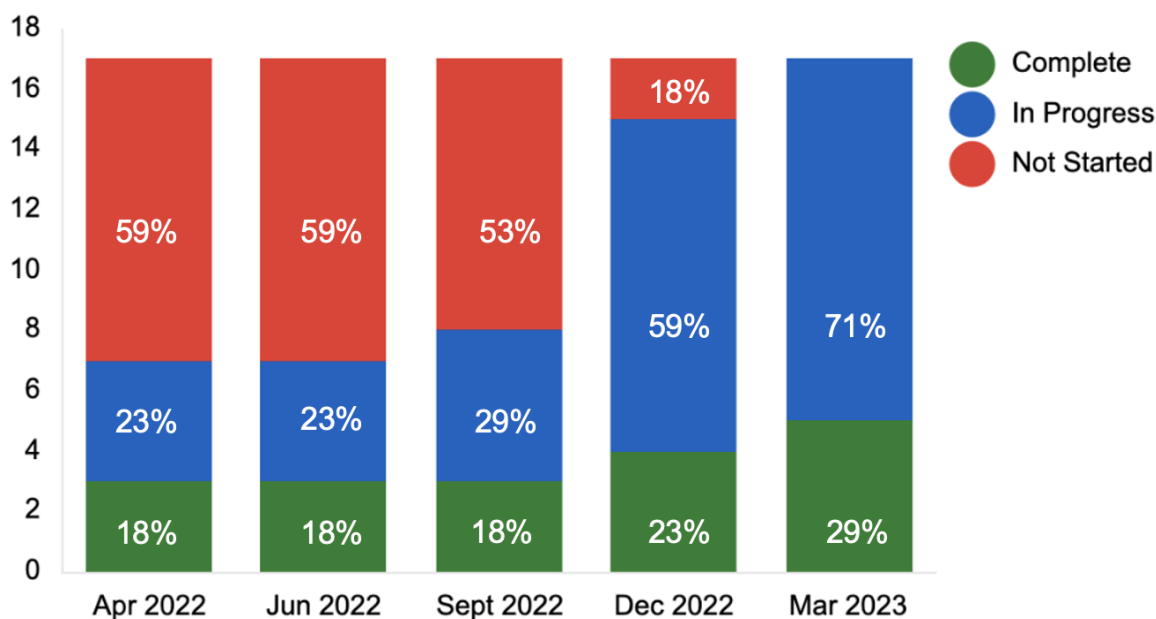
Implementation Status of Board-Approved CCT Recommendations (March 2023)

Status of Board-Approved CCT Recommendations Q1 2023 Status	May 22	Jun 22	Sept 22	Dec 22	Mar 23
Complete	3	3	3	4	5
In Progress	4	4	5	10	12
Not Started	10	10	9	3	0

Five out of the 17 Board-approved CCT Recommendations are complete in full:

- **CCT Recommendation 16** calls for studying the relationship between specific registry operators, registrars, and DNS security abuse by commissioning ongoing data collection. ICANN org has been operating the Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR) and publishing the results for more than three years. Moreover, ICANN org has established a group within the Office of the CTO dedicated to researching SSR-related issues, including a focus on DNS security threats. Efforts within this group include the Domain Name Security Threat Information Collection and Reporting (DNSTICR). Data collected from the DAAR system is currently being used to generate monthly reports. In alignment with the CCT Recommendation 16, DAAR currently uses a documented set of reputation list providers to identify and track reported domain names associated with a specific set of security threats and abuse behavior across all generic and some country code top-level domain registries. ICANN org will continue to evaluate the security threat landscape and make adjustments to data analysis as the landscape changes. More information can be found in the CCT 16 Implementation Documentation.

- **CCT Recommendation 17** calls for collecting, and publicizing, data regarding a chain of parties responsible for gTLD domain name registrations. As noted in the [CCT 17 Implementation Documentation](#), reseller information is already displayed within the WHOIS, and this recommendation has been implemented to the extent possible within the current policy requirements.

- **CCT Recommendation 18** called for specific data to be gathered to inform the RDS-WHOIS2 review effort on data accuracy. ICANN org's Contractual Compliance provided the data. As a result, CCT Recommendation 18 was considered complete as articulated in the [CCT Recommendation 18 Implementation Documentation](#).

- **CCT Recommendation 30** recommends improving outreach to specific regions of the world as it relates to new gTLDs. This recommendation was superseded by Board approval, in March 2023, of recommendations for the next round of the New gTLD Program and will be addressed via the implementation of the Board-approved Subsequent Procedures Final Report outputs. Implementation documentation will be published in Q2 2023.

- Similarly, **CCT Recommendation 31** which prompts ICANN org to coordinate a pro-bono assistance program as it relates to gTLDs, was marked complete as it will be addressed by implementation of the next round of the New gTLD Program. Refer to [CCT Recommendation 31 Implementation Documentation](#) for more information.

There is a set of CCT components which are considered complete. Given the unique nature of the implementation of CCT, where components of recommendations are divided into components and regrouped into relevant implementation efforts and incubators, the items listed here were not put forward for prioritization. The recommendation to which these components belong will be marked complete once all its items have been effectively addressed:

- **CCT Recommendation 21 items 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6** data points, namely on the class/type of abuse, the safeguard that is at risk, an indication of whether complaints relate to the protection of sensitive health or financial information, what type of contractual breach is being complained, were already available on ICANN Contractual Compliance's reporting [page](#) at the time of Board action on the CCT Final Report. The data point on resolution status of the complaints, including action details, was subsequently added in August 2019.

- In January 2018, ICANN Contractual Compliance started publishing the volume and nature of complaints received from gTLDs in highly regulated sectors and continues to do so on a monthly basis, thereby addressing **CCT Recommendations 23 items C (in part)**. This data can be found on the [monthly dashboard](#). Regarding the audit on registration practices, which the **CCT Recommendation 23 item E** recommends, ICANN Contractual Compliance conducts audits twice a year as per the existing Registry Agreement and Registrar Accreditation Agreement. The Board directed ICANN org to continue to monitor complaint trends in this area, and to plan for an audit if any risk is identified.

- ICANN org currently reports on the data point identified in **CCT Recommendation 24 item A** ("complaints for a registry operator's failure to comply with either the safeguard related to gTLDs with inherently governmental functions or the safeguard related to cyberbullying") on a monthly basis.

Twelve recommendations out of 35 are in progress. In addition to the components enumerated above:

- Categorized by the community group as P1, **CCT Recommendation 1** calls for formalizing and promoting ongoing data collection. ICANN org intends to develop a model to guide and support data-collection activities to inform future community work in an appropriate manner, and to contribute to effective policy development processes. Work has begun to identify the mission, vision, and scope for the model including the organizational context and mandate, relevant stakeholder use cases, desired functions and services. Community feedback will be sought on the proposed model. The model is now expected to be in place in Q4 2023.

- **CCT Recommendation 6** requires collecting TLD-related data through partnerships. ICANN org has presented a plan to partner with gTLD and ccTLD registration data providers to obtain the requested data. However, the plan notes that obtaining the ccTLD registration data may be difficult as ICANN does not hold agreements to this respect with ccTLD operators. Moreover, national laws could also affect ICANN's ability to obtain the data. To address this work, ICANN org plans to conduct outreach to potential ccTLD and gTLD data providers. Dependencies may arise from ongoing work on RDS policies related to gTLDs and national laws that affect RDS data access and availability at the ccTLD level. ICANN org continued to explore potential sources of data to collect the information. The extent of analysis possible will depend on the overall availability of RDS data. CCT Recommendation 6 is currently scheduled to be completed in Q4 2023.

- **CCT Recommendation 7** recommends collecting data to understand the implication of parked domains. ICANN org is evaluating resources to collect the requested data. ICANN org has investigated existing definitions of parking, including the CCT definition and its data collection methodologies, along with other potential data sources, in order to provide a definition of parking for community review and discussion in Q2 2023, and a transparent methodology and process for data collection. Without a community aligned definition, ICANN org might not be able to deliver the appropriate data to the community. ICANN org continued to explore potential sources of data to collect the information. The estimated completion date for this work is Q3 2023.

- **CCT Recommendations 8 and 11** call for ICANN org to conduct periodic surveys of both registrants and end-users to better understand consumer choice and trust as it relates to new gTLDs. **CCT Recommendation 13 items 1, 2, and 4 (in part)** seek to obtain data about consumer awareness of registration restrictions and consumer trust levels in TLDs with restrictions compared to TLDs without restrictions. ICANN org is grouping these recommendations together to allow for a single survey. The combined survey approach reduces the cost of drafting and conducting registrant and end-user surveys, and alleviates the burden of having to collect and manage multiple datasets. Implementation of efforts requires close collaboration with the community to ensure buy-in and agreement on the approach and purpose of the survey and interpreting results. Work on implementing these recommendations is in the initial stages and is expected to complete in Q3 2023.

- **CCT Recommendation 13 item 3** requires collecting information on the correlation between lower abuse rates and gTLDs that impose stricter registrations policies. In Q1 2023, ICANN org explored potential sources of data to collect the information. ICANN org expects the work on CCT Recommendation 13 item 3 to complete in Q3 2023.

- ICANN org will conduct a voluntary pilot survey to gather the data requested by CCT **Recommendations 13 items 4 (in part) and 5** (costs and benefit of registration restrictions on contracted parties, including whether and how these are enforced or challenged); **CCT Recommendation 20** (whether tools to report and process complaints have helped fight DNS abuse); **CCT Recommendation 23 items A (in part), C, and D** (new gTLDs operating in highly regulated sectors); and **CCT Recommendation 24 item B** (whether registries receive complaints related to cyberbullying and misrepresenting a governmental affiliation, and how they enforce safeguards). To conduct the survey, ICANN org is planning to engage with contracted parties in Q2 2023 regarding the intent and extent of the survey to ensure the contracted parties are agreeable to participating in the survey. Once the survey is complete, results and participation rates in the survey will be reviewed to assess whether data brings valuable insights to ICANN org and the community, and should be run at regular intervals. In Q1 2023, ICANN org began developing a focus group consultation protocol. The anticipated completion date for the set of recommendations is Q2 2024.

- **CCT Recommendation 21** proposes that ICANN Contractual Compliance collect and provide reports on the abuse reported to registry and registrars with a granularity that allows identification of origin, type, form, and nature of abuse or alleged illegal use of the DNS. While ICANN org already collects the data requested in CCT Recommendation 21 item 2 of the recommendation "the gTLD that is target of the abuse," ICANN org believes the Registries Stakeholder Group's input on the release of such data is essential. Work is in progress to prepare for this discussion. This work and therefore, CCT Recommendation 21 are expected to complete in Q3 2023.

- **CCT Recommendation 22** requires engagement with stakeholders to discuss best practices implemented to offer appropriate security measures when dealing with sensitive information such as health or financial. ICANN org has taken steps to combine this engagement work with the voluntary pilot survey of contracted parties (as described above) as this project will require working closely and together with external stakeholders to ensure buy-in and agreement on the approach and purpose of the engagement. Success is conditioned on the participation of relevant stakeholders and their willingness to provide the requested information. This work is currently estimated to be completed in Q1 2024.

- **CCT Recommendation 23 item b** calls for a review of a sample of websites within highly regulated sectors. Though no formal initiative exists to collect contact information, sample domain website data will be collected internally using contractual information to determine whether a domain website is within a highly regulated sector. Work started in Q1 2023 to determine the methodology for collecting the sample. This portion of CCT Recommendation 23 is now estimated to complete in Q3 2023.

- **CCT Recommendation 26** recommends repeating a study at regular intervals to ascertain the impact of the New gTLD Program on the costs required to protect trademarks in the expanded Domain Name System. The Board action noted an opportunity to collaborate with relevant partners to gain a deeper insight into the effects of the New gTLD Program on trademark enforcement, using a combination of qualitative and quantitative research. ICANN org has begun initial discussions and identified a potential opportunity to collaborate with the International Trademark Association (INTA). INTA previously indicated its availability to investigate new approaches to collect relevant information as well as to increase survey response

rates. ICANN org should provide more clarification and guidance to define future scope, and whether other cost categories of trademark defense should be considered to assess what additional costs and efforts are required to protect trademarks in the DNS. As such, there could be an opportunity to work collaboratively with INTA.

Second Registration Directory Service Review (RDS-WHOIS2)

Status of RDS-WHOIS2 Review

On 25 February 2020, the Board took action on each of the 22 recommendations, included in the RDS-WHOIS2 Final Report, as documented in an associated Scorecard, and approved 15 recommendations in whole or in part, subject to prioritization.

The RDS-WHOIS2 Review recommendations are, in part, built on the RDS-WHOIS2 Review Team's assessment of the implementation of the previous Directory Service Review recommendations.

Board Action on RDS-WHOIS2 – 22 Recommendations Q4-2022 Status	
Approve (in whole or in part) subject to prioritization	15 (Recommendations 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 3.1, 3.2, 10.2, 11.2, 12.1, 15.1, LE.1, LE.2, SG.1, CC.1 [in part] CC.2, CC.3)
Pending Board consideration	4 (Recommendations 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 10.1)
Pass through (in whole or in part)	2 (Recommendations CC.1 [in part], CC.4)
Reject	2 (Recommendations 11.1, BY.1)

Refer to Appendix C: Board-Approved RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations for the full language of Board-approved recommendations.

Status of RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations Pending Board Consideration

Recommendations 4.1, 4.2 and 5.1, that relate to data accuracy, remain in "pending" given the dependency on Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team's work on the effects of the EU's General Data Protection Regulation on Registration Data accuracy requirements and the WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System.

Recommendation 10.1 aims to provide better data quality and contactability of the underlying contact owner for registrations using affiliated Privacy or Proxy services by requiring registrars to verify and validate the underlying registration data of domain name registrations. Following further review, the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) already includes requirements for registrars to validate and verify registrant contact data of privacy services. ICANN org plans to resume the implementation of Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Implementation (PPSAI), which will provide additional explicit requirements to verify and validate registrant contact data of both Privacy and Proxy Services, once the EPDP Phase 1 implementation is completed.ICANN org has begun to work on the impact assessment of the outcomes of ongoing community work in Q1 2023 to inform Board consideration of RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation 10.1.

Refer to Appendix E: RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations Pending Board Consideration for the full language.

Prioritization of RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations

As articulated in the table, a set of eight recommendation components was put forward for prioritization and prioritized in April–May 2022:

Board-Approved RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations – 15 Recommendation Components Q4-2022 Prioritization Status		
Rec. / Rec. Component	ICANN Org Proposed Prioritization[16]	Priority Assigned by Community Group in Pilot Prioritization
1.3	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
3.1	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
11.2	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
15.1	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
LE.1	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
LE.2	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
SG.1	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*
CC.1	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
Not Eligible for Prioritization Due to Dependencies		
Rec. / Rec. Component	Rationale	
3.2	The information or the messaging to be delivered by ICANN org to new target groups regarding the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) phased implementation may be impacted by the implementation of the EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data. This work will begin as soon as the dependency on outcomes of the EPDP has been fully resolved.	
10.2	The ICANN Board deferred the third review of the Registration Directory Service (RDS3) in consideration of the dependency on the ongoing work related to the EPDP Phase 2 Final Report recommendations, including the proposed SSAD (now WHOIS Disclosure System). This action was also to allow the ICANN community and organization sufficient time to plan for, and implement pertinent ATRT3 recommendations that have been prioritized for implementation.	
12.1	The ICANN Board deferred the RDS3 in consideration of the dependency on the ongoing work related to the EPDP Phase 2 Final Report recommendations, including the proposed SSAD now WHOIS Disclosure System). This action was also to allow the ICANN community and organization sufficient time to plan for, and implement pertinent ATRT3 recommendations that have been prioritized for implementation.	
CC.2	This work will be included in the implementation of EPDP Phase 1 – Registration Data Policy for gTLDs, which addresses the collection, transfer, and publication of gTLD registration data. The Public Comment proceeding on the implementation plan for the Registration Data Policy closed in Q4 2022. ICANN org anticipates Recommendation CC.2 to complete once the Registration Data Policy is published in Q2 2023.	
N/A		

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[16] Proposed ranks were accompanied by a rationale. See the worksheet for more information.

Rec. / Rec. Component	Rationale
1.1	Recommendation complete. See implementation documentation.
1.2	Recommendation complete. See implementation documentation.
CC.3	Recommendation complete. See implementation documentation.

Refer to Appendix C: Board-Approved RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations for recommendation language and to Implementation Status of RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations for information on the status of the recommendations.

Implementation Status of RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations

This section provides an update on Board-approved RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations, including estimated implementation completion dates, where available, and links to implementation documentation produced by ICANN org.

The following table shows the pre-prioritization status of a recommendation and the one in Q4 2022. In the next quarterly reports, the status of the previous quarter will be used as a point of reference against which ICANN org will report any alterations to the tentative completion date.

"P. Label" in the table below corresponds to the prioritization label assigned by the community group. Any recommendation or recommendation component that was not included in the prioritization process for reasons articulated in the Prioritization of RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations section is recorded as N/A in the "P. Label."
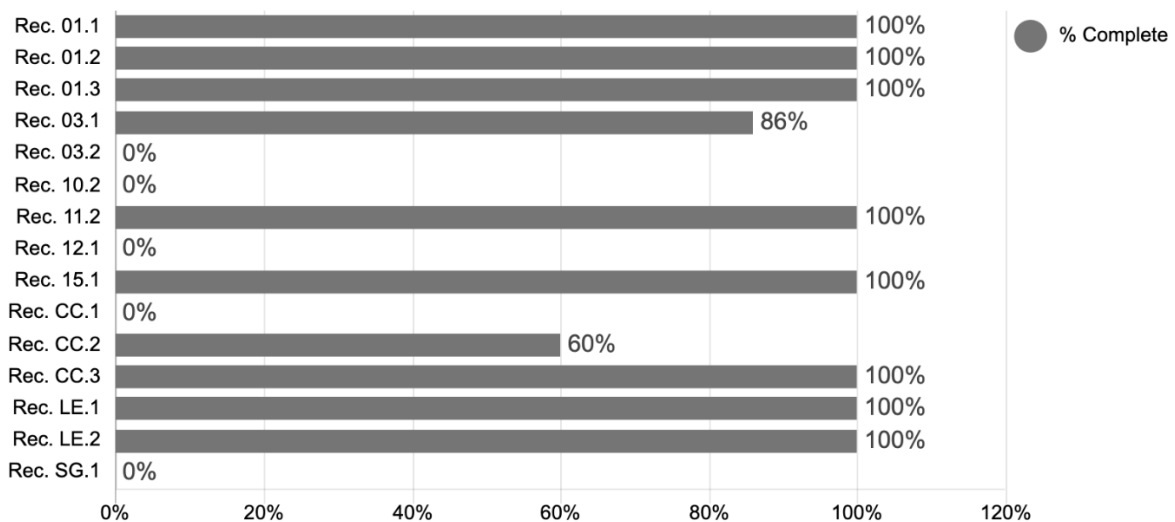
Appendix C: Board-Approved RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations contains the full text of each recommendation.

Board-Approved RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations – Recommendation Components Q1-2022 Status				
Rec. / Rec. Component	P. Label	Complete		Implementation Information
1.1	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation Documentation
1.2	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation Documentation
1.3	P4	Completed in N/A		Implementation Documentation
11.2	P4	Completed in N/A		Implementation Documentation
15.1	P4	Completed in Q4 2022		Implementation Documentation
LE.1	P4	Completed in N/A		Implementation Documentation
LE.2	P4	Completed in N/A		Implementation Documentation
CC.3	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation Documentation
Rec. / Rec. Component	P. Label	Q4 2022 Implementation Status	Q1 2023 Implementation Status	Implementation Information/ Estimated Completion Date
3.1	P4	In progress	In progress	Q4 2023
3.2	N/A	Not started	Not started	Dependency – see below for more information.
10.2	N/A	Not started	Not started	Dependency – see below for more information.
12.1	N/A	Not started	Not started	Dependency – see below for

		more information.		
SG.1	P2	Not started	Not started	Q4 2023
CC.1	P4	Not started	Not started	Q3 2024
CC.2	N/A	In progress	In progress	Q2 2023

Legend:
- Complete — 54%, 8 Recs
- In Progress — 13%, 2 Recs
- Not Started — 33%, 5 Recs

Progress of Completion – Current vs. Planned [17]: 30%

The overall implementation progress of Board Approved RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations (December 2022) is summarized in the graph[18] below.

% Complete:
- Rec. 01.1 — 100%
- Rec. 01.2 — 100%
- Rec. 01.3 — 100%
- Rec. 03.1 — 86%
- Rec. 03.2 — 0%
- Rec. 10.2 — 0%
- Rec. 11.2 — 100%
- Rec. 12.1 — 0%
- Rec. 15.1 — 100%
- Rec. CC.1 — 0%
- Rec. CC.2 — 60%
- Rec. CC.3 — 100%
- Rec. LE.1 — 100%
- Rec. LE.2 — 100%
- Rec. SG.1 — 0%

Since prioritization concluded in May 2022, progress of implementation status over past quarters in calendar year 2022, and at the conclusion of the first quarter of 2023 is as follows:

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[17] The progress of completion current vs. planned is an indicator that is measuring "on-time delivery" by indicating whether the work is progressing according to the time frame set when the work plan was developed. This indicator is impacted by progress of the work as well as by changes to the work plan. The indicator shows negative if less work has been completed than originally time-planned. The indicator shows positive if the work completed is ahead of the original plan/schedule.

[18] This chart is not indicative of the difference in level of effort for each recommendation.
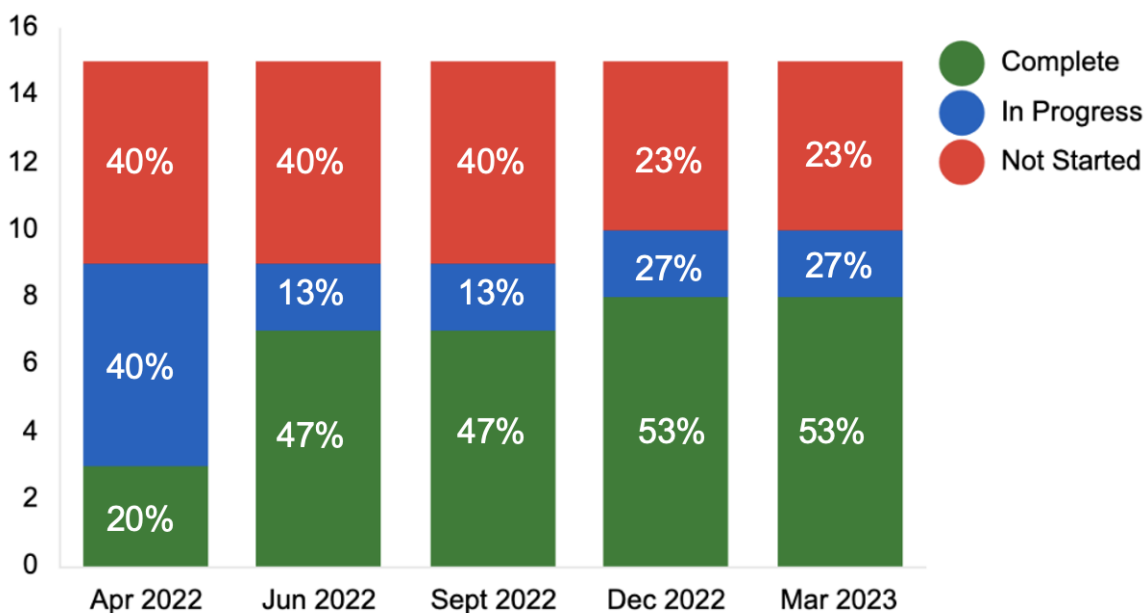
Implementation Status of Board-Approved RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations (March 2023)

Status of Board-Approved RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations Q4 2022 Status	May 22	Jun 22	Sept 22	Dec 22	Mar 23
Complete	3	7	7	8	8
In Progress	6	2	2	3	3
Not Started	6	6	6	4	4

Eight of the 15 RDS-WHOIS2 recommendations are complete as described in their respective implementation documentation:

- **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations 1.1 and 1.2** call for a forward-looking mechanism that monitors legislative and policy developments. In its action on the Final Report, the Board noted that ICANN org's existing initiative already addresses the concerns, thereby concurring with a clarification provided by the RDS-WHOIS2 Implementation Shepherds. Given their complete status, the recommendations were not put forward for prioritization. ICANN org has produced RDS-WHOIS2 1.1-1.2 Implementation Documentation to report on how the recommendations' intent has been addressed.

- In establishing the implementation design for **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation 1.3** (prioritized as P4), ICANN org noted that the requirement of demonstrating that Board activities on RDS are taking place, as clarified by RDS-WHOIS implementation shepherds, is already being addressed. As detailed in the RDS-WHOIS 1.3 Implementation Documentation, since the time Recommendation 1.3 was issued, the

ICANN Board has sustained a significant amount of work dedicated to RDS issues, and the Board's focus on this work remains visible to the ICANN community.

- **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation 11.2** relates to common interface display of information and updates. In refining implementation design for the recommendation prioritized as P4, the cross-functional project team came to the determination that the RDAP lookup tool, including its designed ability to address any future policy or contractual changes, as well as the gTLD RDAP profile that was developed with registrars and registries, address requirements of the recommendation. The RDS-WHOIS2 11.2 Implementation Documentation includes the appropriate information.

- **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation 15.1** calls for improvements to ICANN org's project management and implementation reports. The creation of the Implementation Operations department, as well as the improved project management culture and training provided to org members, have contributed toward improving the way non-policy recommendations are being addressed by org. The Implementation Operations department deployed an approach that includes clarity around status of implementation, enhanced templates to assist with implementation design, and a more frequent and detailed reporting mechanism. Prioritized by the community group as P4, Recommendation 15.1 was marked complete when the Implementation Operations department put together this first quarterly report on Specific Reviews. More details can be found in the RDS-WHOIS2 15.1 Implementation Documentation.

- **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations LE.1 and LE.2** identify a need for data-gathering to inform whether RDS is effective in meeting law enforcement needs. When assessing the existing initiatives during implementation design, i.e. the study conducted to inform EPDP Phase 2 work along with questionnaires and outreach conducted to inform work on SSAD ODA, it was determined that both recommendations were implemented to the extent possible, as detailed in the RDS-WHOIS2 LE.1-LE.2 Implementation Documentation. The cadence of the data collection will be addressed through the data collection model recommendation in CCT Recommendation 1.

- **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation CC.3** calls for adequate resources for ICANN Contractual Compliance. In its action on the Final Report, the Board noted that the recommendation was already part of ICANN org's existing budgeting and planning process. Given its complete status, the recommendation was not put forward for prioritization. ICANN org has produced RDS-WHOIS2 CC.3 Implementation Documentation to report on how the recommendation's intent is addressed.

Thee of the 15 RDS-WHOIS2 recommendations are in progress:

- Categorized by the community group as P4, **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation 3.1** articulates the need for improvements to web information and educational materials on RDS. A number of milestones have already been met to address this recommendation as ICANN org has updated the content and navigation of the registration data look up tool. The information on that page has been reorganized and now appears on the Domain Name Registration Data Policies and Related Requirements page, which contains information regarding existing policies and requirements as well as ongoing policy development work. Moreover, ICANN org's Contractual Compliance has included the links to this information on the Complaint Submission page.

The RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation 3.1 further requires the involvement of users (potentially focus groups) to ensure requirements are met. ICANN org plans to meet this element of the recommendation through engagement with community members, potentially at ICANN meetings or in other separate fora. The success of this implementation is dependent upon community participation. Given the existing workload of the community, ICANN org plans to develop an engagement plan in Q2 2023, and to deploy it in Q3 2023 with the goal of analyzing results and addressing Recommendation 3.1 in full by Q4 2023.

- **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation CC.2** requires that all gTLD domain name registration directory entries contain at least one full set of either registrant or administrative contact details. Recognizing that this requirement is fulfilled by the Registration Data Policy for gTLDs, which addresses the collection, transfer, and publication of gTLD registration data, the recommendation was not put forward for prioritization. The improvements suggested by the recommendation will be addressed through implementation of EPDP Phase 1 – Registration Data Policy for gTLDs. The Public Comment period on the topic closed in Q4 2022. ICANN org anticipates Recommendation CC.2 to complete once the Registration Data Policy is published in Q2 2023.

Five of the 15 RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations are in "not started" status, three of which are tied to dependencies:

- **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation 3.2** calls for RDS-related outreach conducted outside of groups with which ICANN org usually engages. As the EPDP and the RDAP phased implementation could impact the information or the messaging to be delivered by ICANN org to new target groups, this recommendation was not included in the FY23 or FY24 prioritization. Given the changing RDS landscape, it is essential that any awareness campaign reflects the most up-to-date and relevant information. As a result, work on addressing RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation 3.2 will begin as soon as the dependency on outcomes of the EPDP has been fully resolved.

- **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations 10.2 and 12.1** call for specific areas of work to be addressed by the subsequent review team (RDS3). As the Board had approved ATRT3 recommendation to suspend any further RDS Reviews pending the outcome of the next ATRT, subject to prioritization and community agreement to the related Bylaws changes, Recommendations 10.2 and 12.1 were not included in the prioritization. As reported in Implementation Status of Board-Approved ATRT3 Recommendations, in September 2022 the ICANN Board deferred the third RDS Review to allow the community and ICANN org sufficient time to plan for and implement pertinent ATRT3 recommendations that were prioritized for implementation. Recognizing the Bylaws requirement that the RDS Review should be conducted every five years, the Board suspended RDS3 until the next ATRT can make a determination on future RDS reviews, as recommended in ATRT3 Recommendation 3.1. The Board will oversee the implementation of ATRT3 recommendations and determine whether the timing of the RDS3 should be re-examined based on the changing environment, including various dependencies such as the ongoing work related to the EPDP Phase 2 Final Report recommendations, including the proposed SSAD (now WHOIS Disclosure System). Recommendations 10.2 and 12.1, as a result, cannot be prioritized, or implemented, at this time.

Two recommendations are scheduled for implementation:

- Prioritized by the community group as P2, **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation SG.1** recommends ICANN's contracts with contracted parties to include uniform and strong requirements for the protection of registrant data. The Board directed ICANN org to include this element in a contract negotiation. ICANN org will conduct a gap analysis, no later than Q2 2023, between existing contracts and policy requirements versus the desired outcomes to prepare for inclusion into the list of items for contractual negotiations.

- Categorized as a P4 recommendation by the community group, **RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation CC.1** calls for the Board to initiate action related to treatment of gTLD domain names suspended due to incorrect RDS contact data. Similar to RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendation SG.1, the Board directed ICANN org to include this element in the next round of contract negotiations. ICANN org believes it would be beneficial to better understand the current industry practice in this regard as well as discuss the approach as noted in the recommendation with registrars. Tentatively, a summary of the implementation approaches taken by leading registrars would be put together in Q1 2024 for enabling discussions, and alignment, with Registrars in Q2 2024. Subsequent to these activities, tentatively in Q3 2024 ICANN org will determine whether changes to the contract are necessary, and if so, whether any technical development would be required.

  For both RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations SG.1 and CC.1, potential revisions to contracts with contracted parties need to be weighed with other activities related to updating agreements, such as revisions stemming from the Subsequent Procedures Final Report Recommendations.

Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency Review (SSR2)

Status of SSR2 Review

On 22 July 2021, the Board took action on each of the recommendations included in the SSR2 Final Report, as documented in the July 2021 Scorecard. The Board action included the approval of 13 recommendations subject to prioritization.

Informed by further clarification received from the SSR2 Implementation Shepherds and ICANN org assessment, the Board subsequently:

- Took action on 1 May 2022 to approve one recommendation subject to prioritization, and reject two recommendations, as articulated in the May 2022 Scorecard.
- Took action on 16 November 2022 to approve 9 recommendations and reject 12, as noted in the November 2022 Scorecard.

The SSR2 recommendations cover the following areas:

- The extent to which prior SSR Review recommendations have been implemented and whether implementation has resulted in the intended effect.
- SSR within ICANN.
- DNS abuse from a contractual, compliance, and transparency perspective.
- Additional SSR-related concerns regarding the global DNS.

Board Action on SSR2 – 63 Recommendations Q4-2022 Status	
Approve subject to prioritization	14 (Recommendations 1.1, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 7.5, 10.1, 16.1, 21.1, 22.1, 22.2, 23.1, 23.2, 24.2)
Approve as fully implemented	9 (Recommendations 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 9.1, 11.1, 24.1)
Pending Board consideration, likely to be approved once further information is gathered to enable approval	/
Pending, holding to seek clarity or further information	9 (Recommendations 9.3, 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, 13.1, 13.2, 14.2, 17.1)
Pending, likely to be rejected unless additional information shows implementation is feasible	1 (Recommendation 9.2)
Reject because the recommendations cannot be approved in full	8 (Recommendations 4.2, 8.1, 9.4, 10.2, 10.3, 17.2, 20.1, 20.2)
Reject	22 (Recommendations 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 3.1, 4.3, 6.1, 6.2, 7.4, 14.1, 14.3, 14.4, 14.5, 15.1, 15.2, 16.2, 16.3, 18.1, 18.2, 18.3, 19.1, 19.2)

Refer to [Appendix D: Board-Approved SSR2 Recommendations](#) for the full language of Board-approved recommendations.

Status of SSR2 Recommendations Pending Board Consideration

There are 10 remaining SSR2 recommendations pending Board consideration:

- Additional time is required to address Recommendation 9.2, which relates to contracted parties registration data accuracy, and Recommendation 9.3 on auditing of contractual compliance activities.
- DNS-abuse-related Recommendations 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, 13.1, 13.2, and 14.2 were placed in pending status in consideration of ongoing community discussions. ICANN org is working on streamlining and aligning on DNS-abuse-related efforts, as well as on processing these seven SSR2 recommendations along with other relevant Specific Reviews recommendations and advice to the Board. Q3 2023 is the tentative timeline for Board consideration of the set of DNS-abuse-related items.
- Recommendation 17.1, which relates to a framework to characterize the nature and frequency of name collisions and resulting concerns, has dependencies on the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)'s studies on name collisions, specifically the Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP) work. This recommendation will be evaluated after the NCAP Study 2 report is released and could be dependent on further work if the SSAC decides to run an NCAP Study 3. The outcome of these reports will help inform staff of the feasibility and potential implementation of this recommendation.

Refer to [Appendix G: SSR2 Recommendations Pending Board Consideration](#) for the full language.

Prioritization of SSR2 Recommendations

A set of nine recommendation components was put forward for prioritization and prioritized in April–May 2022. Subsequently, one recommendation approved by the Board in May 2022 was confirmed by ICANN org as eligible for prioritization and was included in the prioritization effort in October–November 2022.

Furthermore, two recommendations approved by the Board on 16 November 2022 will be included in the FY25 prioritization cycle.

Board Approved SSR2 Recommendations – Recommendation Components Q1-2023 Status		
Rec. / Rec. Component	ICANN Org Proposed Prioritization[19]	Priority Assigned by Community Group[20]
1.1	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
5.4	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
10.1	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*

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[19] Proposed ranks were accompanied by a rationale. See [this worksheet](#) for more information on 1.1, 10.1, 16.1, 21.1, 22.1, 22.2, 23.1, 23.2, and 24.2, and [this worksheet](#) for information on 5.4.
[20] See [this list](#) for priority assigned by the community group 1.1, 10.1, 16.1, 21.1, 22.1, 22.2, 23.1, 23.2, and 24.2, and [this list](#) for priority assigned on 5.4.

16.1	*P3 = Urgent/Less Important*	*P3 = Urgent/Less Important*
21.1	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*
22.1	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
22.2	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*
23.1	*P3 = Urgent/Less Important*	*P3 = Urgent/Less Important*
23.2	P2 = *Less Urgent/Important*	P1 = *Highest Priority-Urgent/ Important*
24.2	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*	P4 = *Lowest Priority-Less Urgent/Important*

Eligible for Prioritization		
Rec. / Rec. Component	**Rationale**
5.3	Confirmed as eligible for prioritization in the next cycle.
7.5	Confirmed as eligible for prioritization in the next cycle.

N/A	
Rec. / Rec. Component	**Rationale**
3.2	Recommendation complete. See implementation documentation.
3.3	Recommendation complete. See implementation documentation.
4.1	Recommendation complete. See implementation documentation.
5.1	There is a dependency on the migration to the U.S. Department of Commerce National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework. Recommendation 5.1, once migration to the NIST Cybersecurity Framework is fully complete, will be considered implemented, as noted in the Board action on the SSR2 Final Report.
5.2	There is a dependency on the migration to the NIST Cybersecurity Framework. Recommendation 5.2, once migration to the NIST Cybersecurity Framework is fully complete, will be considered implemented, as noted in the Board action on the SSR2 Final Report.
7.1	Recommendation complete. Implementation documentation in progress.
7.2	Recommendation complete. Implementation documentation in progress.
7.3	Recommendation complete. Implementation documentation in progress.
9.1	Recommendation complete. See implementation documentation.
11.1	Recommendation complete. See implementation documentation.
24.1	Recommendation complete. See implementation documentation.

Refer to Appendix D: Board-Approved SSR2 Recommendations for recommendation language and to Implementation Status of SSR2 Recommendations for information on the status of the recommendations.

Implementation Status of SSR2 Recommendations

This section provides an update on Board-approved SSR2 Recommendations, including estimated implementation completion dates, where available, and links to implementation documentation produced by ICANN org.

The following table shows the pre-prioritization status of a recommendation and the one in Q4 2022. In the next quarterly reports, the status of the previous quarter will be used as a point of reference against which ICANN org will report any alterations to the tentative completion date.

"P. Label" in the table below corresponds to the prioritization label assigned by the community group. Any recommendation or recommendation component that was not included in the prioritization process for reasons articulated in the Prioritization of Board-Approved SSR2 Recommendations section is recorded as N/A in the "P. Label."
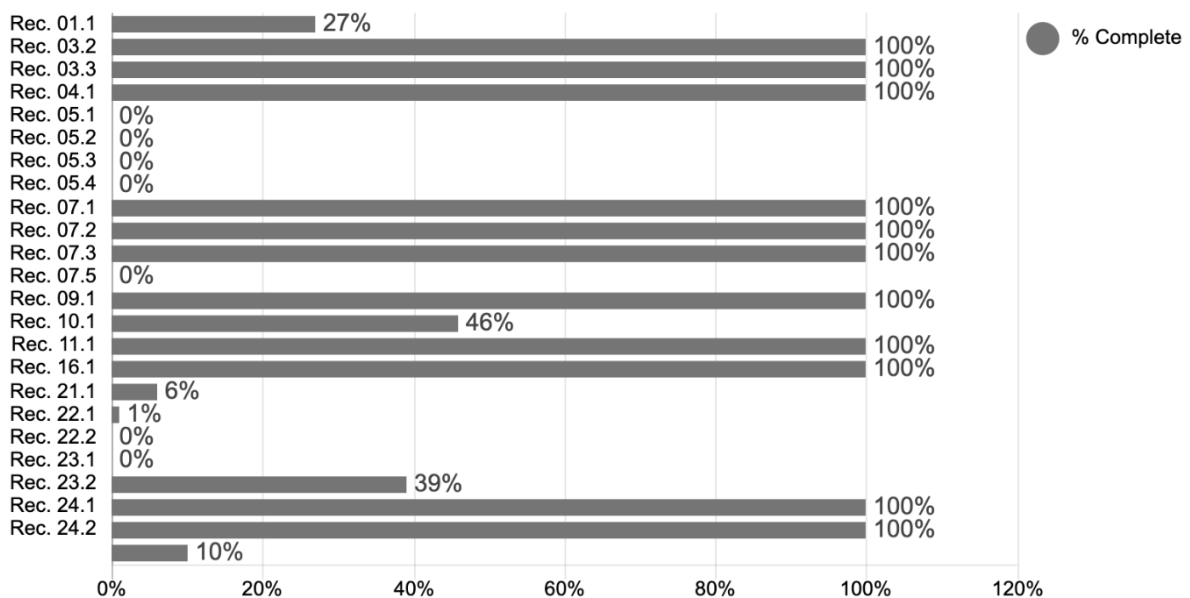
Appendix D: Board-Approved SSR2 Recommendations contains the full text of each recommendation.

Board-Approved SSR2 Recommendations – Recommendation Components Q1-2023 Status				
Rec. / Rec. Component	**P. Label**	**Complete**		**Implementation Information**
3.2	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation documentation
3.3	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation documentation
4.1	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation Documentation
7.1	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation documentation in progress.
7.2	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation documentation in progress.
7.3	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation documentation in progress.
9.1	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation Documentation
11.1	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation documentation
16.1	P3	Completed in Q1 2023		Implementation Documentation
24.1	N/A	Completed in N/A		Implementation documentation
24.2	P4	Completed in Q4 2023		Implementation Documentation
Rec. / Rec. Component #	**P. Label**	**Q4 2022 Implementation Status**	**Q1 2023 Implementation Status**	**Implementation Information/ Estimated Completion Date**
1.1	P4	Not started	In progress	Q2 2023
5.1	N/A	Not started	Not started	Dependency – see below for more information.
5.2	N/A	Not started	Not started	Dependency – see below for more information.
5.3	Pending	Not started	In progress	Implementation design in progress.
5.4	P4	Not started	Not started	Implementation design in progress.
7.5	Pending	Not started	In progress	Implementation design in progress.
10.1	P1	In progress	In progress	Q2 2023

21.1	P1	In progress	In progress	Q1 2024
22.1	P4	In progress	In progress	~~Q1~~ Q4 2023
22.2	P4	Not started	Not started	Q4 2023
23.1	P3	Not started	Not started	Q4 2024
23.2	P1	Not started	In progress	Q2 2023
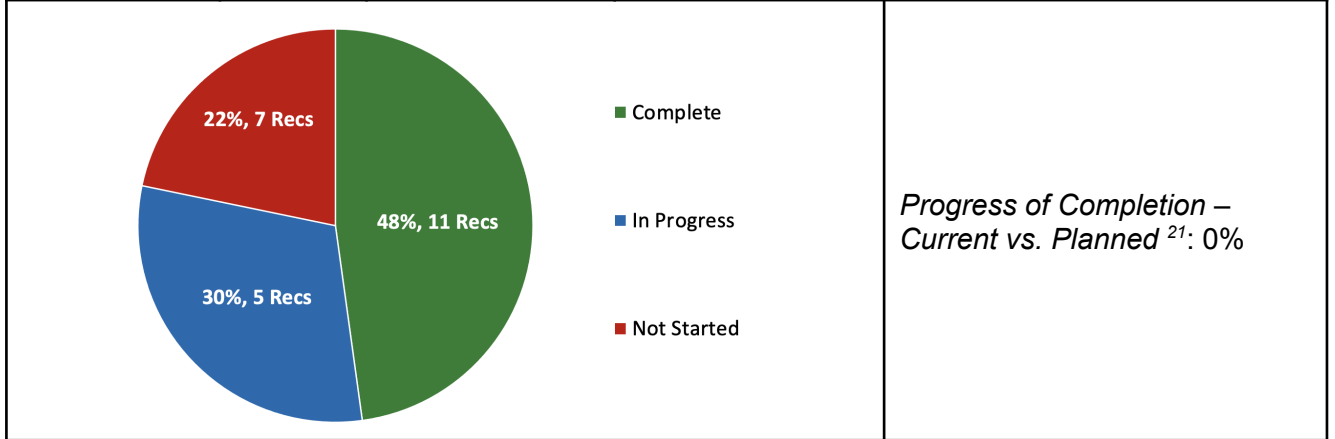
Pie chart:
- Complete: 48%, 11 Recs
- In Progress: 30%, 5 Recs
- Not Started: 22%, 7 Recs

Progress of Completion – Current vs. Planned [21]: 0%

The overall implementation progress of Board Approved SSR2 Recommendations (March 2023) is summarized in the graph[22] below.

% Complete

Recommendation	% Complete
Rec. 01.1	27%
Rec. 03.2	100%
Rec. 03.3	100%
Rec. 04.1	100%
Rec. 05.1	0%
Rec. 05.2	0%
Rec. 05.3	0%
Rec. 05.4	0%
Rec. 07.1	100%
Rec. 07.2	100%
Rec. 07.3	100%
Rec. 07.5	0%
Rec. 09.1	100%
Rec. 10.1	46%
Rec. 11.1	100%
Rec. 16.1	100%
Rec. 21.1	6%
Rec. 22.1	1%
Rec. 22.2	0%
Rec. 23.1	0%
Rec. 23.2	39%
Rec. 24.1	100%
Rec. 24.2	100%
	10%

Since prioritization concluded in May 2022, progress of implementation status over past quarters in calendar year 2022, and at the conclusion of the first quarter of 2023 is as follows:

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[21] The progress of completion current vs. planned is an indicator that is measuring "on-time delivery" by indicating whether the work is progressing according to the time frame set when the work plan was developed. This indicator is impacted by progress of the work as well as by changes to the work plan. The indicator shows negative if less work has been completed than originally time-planned. The indicator shows positive if the work completed is ahead of the original plan/schedule.

[22] This chart is not indicative of the difference in level of effort for each recommendation.
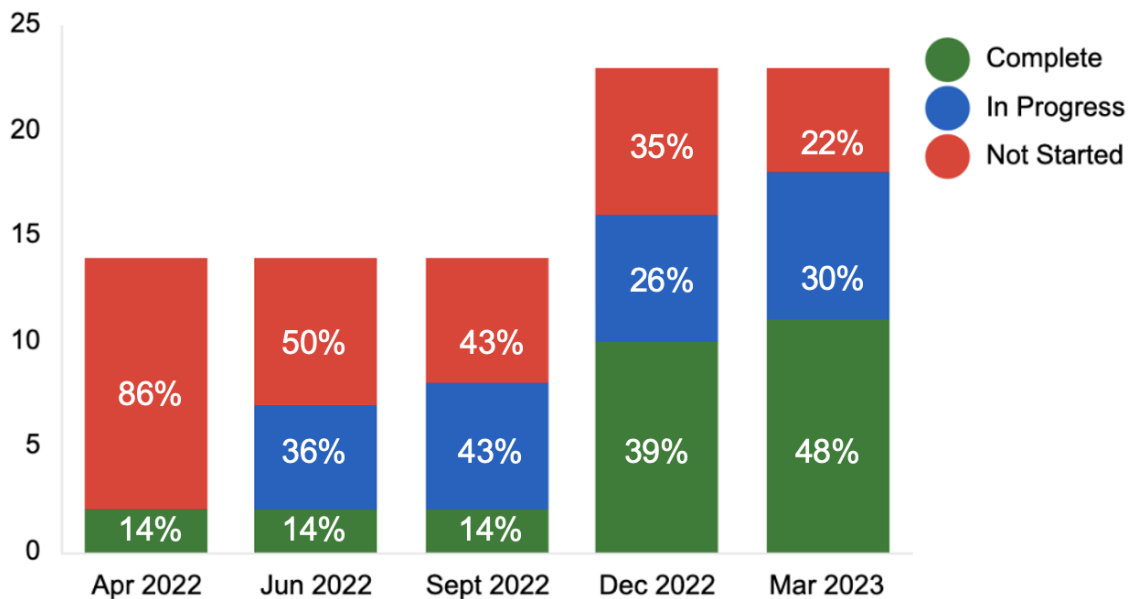
Implementation Status of Board-Approved SSR2 Recommendations (March 2023)

Status of Board-Approved SSR2 Recommendations Q1 2023 Status	May 22	Jun 22	Sept 22	Dec 22	Mar 23
Complete	2	2	2	9	11
In Progress	0	5	6	6	7
Not Started	12	7	6	8	5

Eleven of the 23 (Status of SSR2 Review for more information) SSR2 recommendations are now complete, two of which are accompanied by implementation documentation:

- **SSR2 Recommendation 3.2** suggests that budget items related to the performance of SSR functions be linked to ICANN Strategic Plan goals and objectives, while **SSR2 Recommendation 3.3** calls for transparency and opportunity to comment on SSR budgeting. Recognizing the existing transparency and Public Comment framework around the organization's planning and budgeting cycle (more specifically, ICANN org's Operating and Financial Plans for FY 22–26 (Five-Year) and FY22 (One-Year) includes "Appendix C: ICANN Security, Stability, and Resiliency (SSR) of the Unique Internet Identifiers" and extensive public consultation activities are in place with regard to the Five-Year Operating and Financial Plan and Annual Operating Plan and Budget, and the Five-Year Strategic Plan), the Board-approved Recommendations 3.2 and 3.3 as fully implemented. Periodic communication on SSR activities is part of the ongoing operations and will be continuously enhanced, as directed by the Board. See SSR2 3.2 Implementation Documentation and SSR2 3.3 Implementation Documentation for more information.

- **SSR2 Recommendation 4.1** calls for centralizing risk management and for the Security Risk Management Framework to be articulated and mapped to the org's objectives. In its action on the Final Report, the Board-approved the recommendation as already fully implemented, and called for no further action. The Board noted that ICANN org already had policies, plans and programs in place. Given its complete status, SSR2 Recommendation 4.1 was not put forward for prioritization. ICANN org has produced SSR2 4.1 Implementation Documentation to report on how the recommendation is addressed.

- The set of **SSR2 Recommendations 7.1, 7.2, and 7.3** relates to Business Continuity (BC) and Disaster Recovery (DR) plans. In its action the Board noted that ICANN org follows the Contingency Planning Guide for Federal Information Systems (NIST SP 800-34 Rev 1) which is a more integrated approach with, and given, ICANN org's remit. The recommendations, as such, were approved by the Board as fully implemented. Implementation documentation for SSR2 Recommendations 7.1, 7.2, and 7.3 will be released in Q2 2023.

- **SSR2 Recommendation 9.1** recommends monitoring, and enforcing, compliance of contracted parties to abuse-related obligations in agreements, contracts and policies. As this recommendation's success measures are in alignment with Contractual Compliance's existing work, SSR2 Recommendation 9.1 was approved by the Board as fully implemented. More information can be found in the SSR2 9.1 Implementation Documentation.

- **SSR2 Recommendation 11.1** pertains to the access to Centralized Zone Data Service (CZDS) data. The Board determined in its action that the ongoing and completed work to date, conducted to address SAC097: SSAC Advisory Regarding the CZDS and Registry Operator Monthly Activity Reports, meets the requirements of Recommendation 11.1. Refer to SSR2 11.1 Implementation Documentation for full reference.

- **SSR2 Recommendation 16.1**, prioritized as P3, required consistent cross-referencing on ICANN org to streamline information and improve access to all action taken on privacy and data stewardship. ICANN org conducted a diligent review of the icann.org pages to identify updates needed and aligned internally on web updates. This process was also conducted for RDS and data protection/privacy webpages. ICANN org completed this recommendation in early January 2023. More information can be found in the SSR2 16.1 Implementation Documentation.

- **SSR2 Recommendation 24.1** suggests performing end-to-end testing of the full Emergency Back-End Registry Operator (EBERO) and to publish the results. As noted in ICANN org agreements with the EBERO service providers, there is a provision which allows for EBERO readiness exercises to be conducted annually. This recommendation, as such, was approved by the Board as fully implemented. Read the SSR2 24.1 Implementation Documentation for full reference.

- Listed as a P4 recommendation by the community group, **SSR2 Recommendation 24.2** calls for a link to the Common Transition Process Manual to be added to the EBERO webpage on icann.org. On 21 December 2022, ICANN org published a link to the Common Transition Process Manual to ICANN org's EBERO webpage. A link to a PDF copy of the Common Transition Process Manual can be found in the "Additional Agreement Information" section of the webpage. Read the SSR2 24.2 Implementation Documentation for more information.

Seven of the 23 SSR2 recommendations are in progress:

- Categorized as P4 during the FY23 prioritization, **SSR2 Recommendation 1.1** calls for reviewing SSR1 implementation and executing a new plan of action. ICANN org has conducted an assessment of the implementation of SSR1 recommendations and verified status of SSR1 recommendations to determine the appropriate status (complete, incomplete, partially complete, or superseded). This quarter, work started to engage subject matter experts on re-labeling the implementation status of SSR1 recommendation with accompanying rationale, and in identifying new actions, as required. ICANN org foresees the conclusions of these activities in Q2 2023 with the publication of a report. Any action resulting from this work will be subject to prioritization, as noted in the ICANN Board action.

- **SSR2 Recommendation 5.3**, which the Board approved in November 2022 subject to prioritization, requires external parties to be compliant with relevant security standards. While CANN org's Engineering & Information Technology (E&IT) function already requires all vendors and service providers to have a risk assessment performed and documented which meets industry-standard requirements, ICANN org plans include a clause on compliance with relevant security standards when renegotiating its one-year based contracts with external service-provider parties, a timing component that will be factored into the implementation design accordingly.

- **SSR2 Recommendation 7.5** was approved by the Board in November 2022 subject to prioritization. The recommendation requests the publication of a summary of the Business Continuity (BC) and Disaster Recovery (DR) plans and procedures, and calls for an external audit to verify compliance with plans. The cross-functional project team will work on an appropriate implementation design to publish a summary of the established Contingency and Continuity Plan and the DR plan which cover all ICANN systems and are tested annually by ICANN org's E&IT function.

- **SSR2 Recommendation 10.1** was categorized as P1 by the community group and calls for increased transparency around the working definition of DNS abuse/security threats that ICANN org uses, including links to links to excerpts abuse-related obligations and related procedures, in contracts with contracted parties. During implementation design, it was determined that this recommendation could be moved to in progress given the existing DNS-abuse-related terminology and definition on the ICANN website. The five broad categories of harmful activity that are consistent with ICANN's remit as defined by the ICANN Bylaws, which together comprise the current working definition for DNS abuse that ICANN utilizes in its contracts, projects and document, are articulated on the DNS Security Threat Mitigation Program page. The ICANN Acronyms and Terms page was also updated to include links of key terms.

  DNS abuse/security are concepts in permanent evolution. ICANN org will continue to monitor the threat landscape and update the terminology used in the webpage. The topic of DNS abuse has been and continues to be widely discussed and debated within the ICANN community. The topic has the attention of nearly all of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees within the gTLD space and is the subject of ongoing community discussion. The org now plans to update the webpage to include comprehensive information on current abuse-related obligations within the RAA and RA by Q4 2023.

- **SSR2 Recommendation 21.1**, prioritized as P1, requires to move implementation of new Root Zone Management System (RZMS) security measures forward as it relates to the authentication and authorization of requested changes so as to allow TLD

operators the opportunity to use those measures, in particular the Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) and encrypted email.

The recommendation will be met via the implementation of MFA using Time-Based One-Time Password (TOTP), a technique standardized in the Internet Engineering Task Force. While the initial implementation will focus on TOTP, the system will be architected to allow for alternative authentication mechanisms in the future. The recommendation to implement encrypted email is understood to be driven by the current practice of transmitting sensitive authentication information via email. ICANN org understands that the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) has already decided to end this practice in the next generation RZMS, and therefore, believes encrypted email is no longer essential to mitigate the security concern. Email notifications will be limited to notifying customers of pending tasks in the system. They will be required to login to obtain and review sensitive information, with no authentication tokens transmitted in the email. As encrypted email poses significant implementation challenges and extensive customer education, IANA does not plan to implement this aspect of the recommendation at this time in light of the alternative remediation of the security concern. ICANN has begun development for TOTP and plans to start defining business requirements for the Know your Customer feature in Q2 2023. SSR2 Recommendation 21.1 is estimated to complete in Q1 2024.

- **SSR2 Recommendation 22.1** recommends putting together and publishing a list of statistics and metrics that reflect the operational status of services (root zone, gTLD, IANA registries). This recommendation was prioritized as P4 and moved to in progress as there is data collected on key systems and services. ICANN org plans to create a new webpage in context of the Information Transparency Initiative to feature this information in Q2 2023.

- Listed by the community group as a P1 in FY23, **SSR2 Recommendation 23.2** recommends developing a consensus plan for future root DNSKEY algorithm rollovers, working with root zone partners and using lessons learned from the 2018 rollover. ICANN understands IANA plans to implement a similar approach to the 2018 root zone key signing key rollover, namely the convening of a community effort to develop recommendations that will inform the parameters associated with root zone algorithm rollovers. A subsequent project would execute algorithm rollovers consistent with the recommendations produced by this activity. A vendor has been selected to facilitate the development of the requirements. The call for community volunteers for the design team received 28 applications. Staff reviewed this list and formalized the team in January 2023. The design team's work kicked off January 2023. It was determined that the scope of work would be larger than originally planned. For this reason it is now estimated that the consensus plan for future Root DNSKEY Algorithm Rollover will be published in Q4 2023.

Five of the 23 SSR2 recommendations are in "not started" status, two of which are tied to a dependency on an initiative:

- **SSR2 Recommendations 5.1 and 5.2** pertain to information security management systems and security certifications. In its action on the SSR2 Final Report, the Board noted that ICANN org is currently following industry-specific security standards and best practices and is in the process of migrating to the U.S. Department of Commerce National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework, with oversight from the Board Risk Committee. The Board action indicates that once migration to the NIST Cybersecurity Framework is fully

completed, Recommendations 5.1 and 5.2 will be considered implemented. As a result, no prioritization will be required for 5.1 and 5.2.

Two of the five SSR2 recommendations in "not started" status are scheduled for implementation but they depend on completion of another SSR2 recommendation:

- Listed as a P4 by the community group, **SSR2 Recommendation 22.2** is in continuation of SSR2 Recommendation 22.1, as described above, and requires collecting community feedback on measurements on an annual basis, and publicly summarizing it. To implement this, ICANN org will generate an email address linked to a ticketing system that will allow the community to provide feedback and suggestions on a continuous basis. The annual report will include data that shows frequency and content of feedback provided through this mechanism (if any). Recommendation 22.2 is estimated to complete in Q4 2023 line with the release of the Annual Report.

- **SSR2 Recommendation 23.1**, a P3 recommendation, calls for PTI operations to update the DNSSEC Practice Statement (DPS) to allow the transition from one digital signature algorithm to another. SSR2 Recommendation 23.2, as noted in the Board [action](#) on the SSR2 Final Report, must be completed before the DNSSEC Practice Statement can be updated. Updating the DPS is standard practice anytime there is modification to any standard operating procedures involving DNSSEC. Recognizing the dependency on SSR2 Recommendation 23.2, SSR2 Recommendation 23.1 is expected to be completed in Q4 2024.

The cross-functional project team is also working on the implementation design for **SSR2 Recommendation 5.4**, to which the community group assigned a P4 level in FY24 prioritization. The recommendation calls for clear reporting of what ICANN org is doing and achieving in the security space.

Appendix A: Board-Approved ATRT3 Recommendations

Recommendation 1.1 To maximize the input from each Public Comment proceeding, ICANN org shall update the requirements per the following:
- Clearly identify who the intended audience is.
- Provide a clear list of precise key questions in plain language that the public consultation is seeking answers to from its intended audience.
- Where appropriate and feasible, include translations of the summary, key questions, and responses.
- Include results of these questions in the staff report.

Recommendation 1.2 With regards to other types of public input ICANN org shall:
- Develop and publish guidelines to assist in determining when a Public Comment process is required vs. alternate mechanisms for gathering input.
- Develop and publish guidelines for how alternative mechanisms for gathering input should operate, including producing final reports.
- Develop a system similar to and integrated with the Public Comment tracking system for all uses alternate mechanisms to gather input.
- Publish the complete "Public Comment Guidelines for the ICANN Organization."
- Resolve the issue of blog posts collecting feedback information when the "Public Comment Guidelines for the ICANN Organization" state that they "will not be used as mechanisms for collecting feedback."

Recommendation 2 ICANN org shall review the implementation of ATRT2 Recommendations in light of ATRT3's assessment and complete their implementation subject to prioritization (see recommendation on the creation of a prioritization process).

Recommendation 3.1 RDS Reviews

- Given the final results of the EPDP process will certainly have an impact on any future RDS Reviews (and could even remove the need for any further Specific Reviews on this topic) and considering that ATRT3's final report will be published prior to the EPDP delivering its final report, ATRT3 recommends suspending any further RDS Reviews until the next ATRT Review can consider the future of RDS Reviews in light of the final EPDP report recommendations, the results of the Board's consideration of these, as well as any other developments which affect Directory Services.

Recommendation 3.2 CCT Reviews

- There should be one additional and clearly scoped CCT Review.
- It shall start within the two years after the first introduction of the (possible) next round of new gTLDs to the root.
- It should be limited to a duration of one year.
- Additionally, a framework of data collection must be in place prior to the next round of gTLDs and the availability of all data sets should be confirmed prior to the selection of the review members and must be provided within 30 days of the review being launched.

Recommendation 3.3 SSR Reviews

- Given SSR2 will not be finalized prior to ATRT3 completing its work, ATRT3 recommends that SSR Reviews shall be suspended until the next ATRT Review (or any type of review that include current ATRT duties) which shall decide if these should be terminated, amended, or kept as is.
- This review could be re-activated at any time by the ICANN Board should there be a need for this.

Recommendation 3.4 ATRT Reviews

ATRT Reviews should continue essentially as they are currently constituted but with the following enhancements:

- Shall start no later than two years after the approval by the Board of the first recommendation of the Holistic Review.
- Shall maintain responsibility to recommend to the Board the termination or amendment of other periodic reviews and the creation of additional periodic reviews (including reassessing reviews terminated by previous ATRTs).
- All pre-identified documentation that is required for the review, such as the previous ATRT's implementation report, shall be available at the first meeting of the review team.
- Terms of reference shall be established at the first meeting.
- Note: The Operating Standards for Specific Reviews shall be amended to allow review teams to obtain professional services, which is not covered by subject matter experts, should they require such services.

Recommendation 3.5 A new Holistic Review of ICANN shall be set up:

- Timing considerations:
  - The first one shall start no later than one year after approval by the Board of the first recommendation by ATRT3.
  - The next Holistic Review shall start no later than every two-and-a-half years after the Board approved the first recommendation from ATRT4). This cadence would ensure a minimum of two continuous improvement assessments for each SO/AC/NC1 prior to holding the next Holistic Review.
  - The launching of any other review activities should be suspended while a Holistic Review is active.
  - Should operate based on Operating Standards for Specific Reviews and should be time limited to a maximum of 18 months.
- Objectives:
  - Review continuous improvement efforts of SO/AC/NC based on good practices.
  - Review the effectiveness of the various inter-SO/AC/NC collaboration mechanisms.
  - Review the accountability of SO/ACs or constituent parts to their members/constituencies (this will include an in-depth analysis of the survey results).
  - Review SO/AC/NC as a whole to determine if they continue to have a purpose within the ICANN structure as they are currently constituted, or if any changes in structures and operations are desirable to improve the overall effectiveness of ICANN as well as ensure optimal representation of community views (but taking into consideration any impacts on the Board or the Empowered Community).

Recommendation 3.6: Organizational Reviews:

[Board and ICANN org] shall evolve the content of Organizational Reviews into continuous improvement programs in each SO/AC/NC:

- Continuous Improvement Program:
  - ICANN org shall work with each SO/AC/NC to establish a continuous improvement program. Such a continuous improvement program shall have a common base between all SOs, ACs, and the NC but will also allow for customization so as to best meet the needs of each individual SO/AC/NC. All SO/AC/NC shall have implemented a continuous improvement program within 18 months of this recommendation being approved by the Board. These continuous improvement programs will include:
    - Annual satisfaction survey of members/participants:
      - Each SO/AC/NC shall perform a comprehensive annual satisfaction survey, or equivalent mechanism, of its members/participants. The focus of the survey should be on member/constituent's satisfaction (and issue identification) vs their respective SO/AC/NC. It can also include satisfaction with ICANN org services such as staff support, travel services, translation services, etc.
      - For SOs and ACs that are composed of sub-structures this should apply to their individual sub-structures and the results of all sub-structures shall be aggregated to generate a result for the given SO or AC.
      - The results of these would be public and used to support the continuous improvement program as well as input for the Holistic Review. If the survey results note a significant issue, this shall be the trigger to initiate appropriate measures to deal with any such issues.
    - Regular assessment of continuous improvement programs:
      - At least everyone years each SO/AC/NC will undertake a formal process to evaluate and report on its continuous improvement activities which will be published for Public Comment.30 This would allow the Holistic Review to consider a minimum of two assessment reports and related public comments for each SO/AC/NC.
      - Details of the assessments will be defined during the elaboration of the continuous improvement program with each SO/AC/NC. If the SO/AC/NC desires and the budget permits, the assessment can be conducted by an independent contractor or by having an intensive one to five-day workshop.
      - The Board should publish at least every three years a summary of its continuous improvements over that period. These reports would be used as input for the Holistic Review.
    - Funding of the continuous improvement for SO/AC/NC:
      - This continuous improvement program is not meant to be a cost reduction activity vs current overall costs of Organizational Reviews over a 5-year period. ICANN shall ensure that, as a minimum, the same overall budget is available for the continuous improvement efforts of the SO/AC/NC.
      - Regardless of the processes selected by the specific SO/AC/NC, this shall fit in the financial constraints available for such activities.

Recommendation 4.1: ICANN org in strategic plans and operational plans shall provide a clear and concise rationale in plain language explaining how each goal, outcome, and operating initiative is critical to achieving the results of the one it is supporting (e.g., For each strategic goal there must be a rationale as to how it is critical for its strategic objective).

Recommendation 4.2: ICANN org in its strategic plans and operational plans shall have a clearly articulated, in plain language, specific criteria defining success which shall be S.M.A.R.T (unless appropriately justified) for all goals (strategic or not), outcomes (targeted or not), operating initiatives, etc.

Recommendation 4.3: For the FY2021- 2025 Strategic Plan and FY2021 Operating Plan, ICANN org shall, within six months of approving this recommendation, produce a supplementary document using the criteria defining success in reporting on the progress of any relevant goal, outcome, operating initiative, etc. to create a listing of required rationales and specific criteria defining success (as defined by ATRT3 in this recommendation) for each goal (strategic or not), outcome (targeted or not), operating initiatives, etc. that are found in both of these documents and post it for public consultation prior to finalization. Once finalized ICANN org will append these to the FY2021-2025 Strategic Plan and FY2021 Operating Plan and use the criteria defining success in all reporting on the progress of any relevant goal, outcome, operating initiative, etc.

Recommendation 4.4: ICANN org shall publish an annual status report on all Strategic Plan and Operating Plan goals, outcomes and operating initiatives. This should clearly assess each of the elements presented in the Strategic and Operating Plans (goals, outcomes etc.) clearly indicating what progress was made vs the target in concise and plain language. Prior to being finalized the report will be submitted for Public Comment.

Recommendation 4.5: ICANN org shall publish an overarching report at the conclusion of a strategic plan starting with the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan. This should clearly assess each of the elements presented in the strategic plan; its text (objectives, goals, outcomes) clearly indicate if it was attained or not and justify that assessment in concise and plain language. The report shall conclude with a section distilling the results of the assessments and how this could be applied to following strategic plans or their revisions. Prior to being finalized the report will be submitted for Public Comment.

Recommendation 5: ATRT3 recommends the following guidance for ICANN org in the creation of a community-led entity tasked with operating a prioritization process for recommendations made by review teams, cross-community groups, or any other community related budgetary elements the Board or ICANN org feels appropriate:

- ATRT3 recommends that all SO/ACs should have the option of participating in this annual process. Those SO/ACs wishing to participate in the prioritization process shall have one member per SO/AC. Additionally the Board and the org shall also each have a member. The Board shall also take into account the following high-level guidance for the prioritization process:
    - Shall operate by consensus of the individual SO/ACs, Board, and org members that are participating in the prioritization process.
    - Is meant to have a continuous dialogue with ICANN org during the preparation of the budget.
    - Shall consider WS2 recommendations which are required to complete the IANA transition and are subject to prioritization but must not be retired unless this is decided by the Board.
    - Must be conducted in an open, accountable, and transparent fashion and decisions justified and documented.

- Shall integrate into the standard Operating and Financial Plan processes.
- Can prioritize multiyear implementations, but these will be subject to annual reevaluation to ensure they still meet their implementation objectives and the needs of the community.
- Shall consider the following elements when prioritizing recommendations:
  - Relevance to ICANN's mission, commitments, core values, and strategic objectives.
  - Value and impact of implementation.
  - Cost of implementation and budget availability.
  - Complexity and time to implement.
  - Prerequisites and dependencies with other recommendations.
  - Relevant information from implementation shepherds (or equivalents).

Appendix B: Board-Approved CCT Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Formalize and promote ongoing data collection.

Recommendation 6: Partner with mechanisms and entities involved with the collection of TLD data. As feasible, collect TLD registration number data per TLD and registrar at a country-by-country level in order to perform analysis based on the same methods used in the Latin American and Caribbean DNS Marketplace (LAC) Study.

Recommendation 7: Collect domain usage data to better understand the implications of parked domains.

Recommendation 8: Conduct periodic surveys of registrants that gathers both objective and subjective information with a goal of creating more concrete and actionable information.

Recommendation 11: Conduct periodic end-user consumer surveys. Future review teams should work with survey experts to conceive more behavioral measures of consumer trust that gather both objective and subjective data with a goal toward generating more concrete and actionable information.

Recommendation 13: ICANN should collect data in conjunction with its related data-collection activities on the impact of restrictions on who can buy domains within certain new gTLDs (registration restrictions) to help regularly determine and report:

(1).Whether consumers and registrants are aware that certain new gTLDs have registration restrictions;

(2).Compare consumer trust levels between new gTLDs with varying degrees of registration restrictions;

(3).Determine whether the lower abuse rates associated with gTLDs that impose stricter registration policies identified in the "Statistical Analysis of DNS Abuse in gTLDs" study continue to be present within new gTLDs that impose registration restrictions as compared with new gTLDs that do not;

(4).Assess the costs and benefits of registration restrictions to contracted parties and the public (to include impacts on competition and consumer choice); and

(5).Determine whether and how such registration restrictions are enforced or challenged.

Recommendation 16[23]: Further study the relationship between specific registry operators, registrars, and DNS Security Abuse by commissioning ongoing data collection, including but not limited to, the ICANN Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR) initiative. For transparency purposes, this information should be regularly published, ideally quarterly and no less than annually, in order to enable identification of registries and registrars that require greater scrutiny, investigation, and potential enforcement action by the ICANN organization. Upon identifying abuse phenomena, ICANN should put in place an action plan to respond to such studies, remedy problems identified, and define future ongoing data collection.

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[23] Language in colored font was passed through to community groups identified by the CCT Review Team. See the 1 March 2019 Board action for more information.

Recommendation 17: ICANN should collect data about and publicize the chain of parties responsible for gTLD domain name registrations.

Recommendation 18: In order for the upcoming WHOIS Review Team to determine whether additional steps are needed to improve WHOIS accuracy, and whether to proceed with the "identity" phase of the Accuracy Reporting System (ARS) project, ICANN should gather data to assess whether a significant percentage of WHOIS-related complaints applicable to new gTLDs relate to the accuracy of the identity of the registrant. This should include analysis of WHOIS accuracy complaints received by ICANN Contractual Compliance to identify the subject matter of the complaints (e.g., complaints about syntax, operability, or identity). The volume of these complaints between legacy gTLDs and new gTLDs should also be compared. ICANN should also identify other potential data sources of WHOIS complaints beyond those that are contractually required (including, but not limited to, complaints received directly by registrars, registries, ISPs, etc.) and attempt to obtain anonymized data from these sources.
Future CCT Review Teams may then also use these data.

Recommendation 20[24]: Assess whether mechanisms to report and handle complaints have led to more focused efforts to combat abuse by determining:

(1) the volume of reports of illegal conduct in connection with the use of the TLD that registries receive from governmental and quasi-governmental agencies;

(2) the volume of inquires that registries receive from the public related to malicious conduct in the TLD;

(3) whether more efforts are needed to publicize contact points to report complaints that involve abuse or illegal behavior within a TLD; and

(4) what actions registries have taken to respond to complaints of illegal or malicious conduct in connection with the use of the TLD.

Such efforts could include surveys, focus groups, or Community discussions. If these methods prove ineffective, consideration could be given to amending future standard Registry Agreements to require registries to more prominently disclose their abuse points of contact and provide more granular information to ICANN. Once this information is gathered, future review teams should consider recommendations for appropriate follow up measures.

Recommendation 21: Include more detailed information on the subject matter of complaints in ICANN publicly available Contractual Compliance reports. Specifically, more precise data on the subject matter of complaints should be included, particularly:

(1) the class/type of abuse;

(2) the gTLD that is target of the abuse;

(3) the safeguard that is at risk;

(4) an indication of whether complaints relate to the protection of sensitive health or financial information;

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[24] Language in colored font was passed through to community groups identified by the CCT Review Team. See the 1 March 2019 Board action for more information.

(5) what type of contractual breach is being complained of; and

(6) resolution status of the complaints, including action details.

These details would assist future review teams in their assessment of these safeguards.

Recommendation 22: Initiate engagement with relevant stakeholders to determine what best practices are being implemented to offer reasonable and appropriate security measures commensurate with the offering of services that involve the gathering of sensitive health and financial information. Such a discussion could include identifying what falls within the categories of "sensitive health and financial information," and what metrics could be used to measure compliance with this safeguard.

Recommendation 23: ICANN should gather data on new gTLDs operating in highlyregulated sectors to include the following elements:

    a. A survey to determine 1) the steps registry operators are taking to establish working relationships with relevant government or industry bodies, and 2) the volume of complaints received by registrants from government and regulatory bodies and their standard practices to respond to those complaints;

    b. A review of a sample of domain websites within the highly-regulated sector category to assess whether contact information to file complaints is sufficiently easy to find;

    c. An inquiry to ICANN Contractual Compliance and registrars/resellers of highly-regulated domains seeking sufficiently detailed information to determine the volume and the subject matter of complaints regarding domains in highly-regulated industries.

    d. An inquiry to registry operators to obtain data to compare rates of abuse between those highly-regulated gTLDs that have voluntarily agreed to verify and validate credentials to those highly-regulated gTLDs that have not.

    e. An audit to assess whether restrictions regarding possessing necessary credentials are being enforced by auditing registrars and resellers offering the highly-regulated TLDs (i.e., can an individual or entity without the proper credentials buy a highly-regulated domain?).

To the extent that current ICANN data collection initiatives and Contractual Compliance audits could contribute to these efforts, the review team recommends that ICANN assess the most efficient way to proceed to avoid duplication of effort and leverage current work.

Recommendation 24:
a. Determine whether ICANN Contractual Compliance should report on a quarterly basis whether it has received complaints for a registry operator's failure to comply with either the safeguard related to gTLDs with inherent governmental functions or the safeguard related to cyberbullying.

b. Survey registries to determine 1) whether they receive complaints related to cyberbullying and misrepresenting a governmental affiliation, and 2) how they enforce these safeguards.

Recommendation 26: A study to ascertain the impact of the New gTLD Program on the costs required to protect trademarks in the expanded DNS marketplace should be repeated at regular intervals to see the evolution of those costs over time. The CCT Review Team

recommends that the next study be completed within 18 months after issuance of the CCT final report, and that subsequent studies be repeated every 18 to 24 months.
The CCT Review Team acknowledges that the Nielsen survey of INTA members in 2017 was intended to provide insight into this topic but yielded a lower response rate than anticipated. The Team recommends a more user-friendly and perhaps shorter survey to help ensure a higher and more statistically representative response rate.

Recommendation 30: Expand and improve outreach into the Global South.

Recommendation 31: The ICANN organization to coordinate the pro bono assistance program.

Appendix C: Board-Approved RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations

Recommendation 1.1: To ensure that RDS (WHOIS) is treated as a strategic priority, the ICANN Board should put into place a forward-looking mechanism to monitor possible impacts on the RDS (WHOIS) from legislative and policy developments around the world.

Recommendation 1.2: To support this mechanism, the ICANN Board should instruct the ICANN organization to assign responsibility for monitoring legislative and policy development around the world and to provide regular updates to the ICANN Board.

Recommendation 1.3: The ICANN Board, in drafting the Charter of a Board working group on RDS, should ensure the necessary transparency of the group's work, such as by providing for records of meetings and meeting minutes, to enable future review of its activities.

Recommendation 3.1: The ICANN Board should direct the ICANN organization to update all of the information related to RDS (WHOIS) and by implication other information related to the registration of second-level gTLDs domains. The content should be revised to make the information readily accessible and understandable, and it should provide details of when and how to interact with ICANN organization or contracted parties. Although not the sole focus of this recommendation, interactions with ICANN organization Contractual Compliance, such as when filing WHOIS Inaccuracy Reports, should be a particular focus. The revision of this web documentation and instructional material should not be undertaken as a purely internal operation but should include users and potentially focus groups to ensure that the final result fully meets the requirements. The resultant outward facing documentation of registrant and RDS (WHOIS) issues should be kept up to date as changes are made to associated policy or processes.

Recommendation 3.2: With community input, the ICANN Board should instruct the ICANN organization to identify groups outside of those that routinely engage with ICANN organization, and these should be targeted through RDS (WHOIS) outreach. An RDS (WHOIS) outreach plan should then be developed, executed, and documented. There should be an ongoing commitment to ensure that as RDS (WHOIS) policy and processes change, the wider community is made aware of such changes. WHOIS inaccuracy reporting was identified as an issue requiring additional education and outreach and may require a particular focus. RDS (WHOIS) outreach should be included when considering communications in underserved regions. The need for and details of the outreach may vary depending on the ultimate General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) implementation and cannot be detailed at this point.

Recommendation 10.2: Reviewing the effectiveness of the implementation of WHOIS1 Recommendation #10 should be deferred. The ICANN Board should recommend that review be carried out by the next RDS (WHOIS) Review Team after PPSAI Policy is implemented.

Recommendation 11.2: The ICANN Board should direct the ICANN organization to ensure that the common interface displays all applicable output for each gTLD domain name registration as available from contracted parties, including multiple versions when the outputs from registry and registrar differ. The common interface should be updated to address any policy or contractual changes to maintain full functionality.

Recommendation 12.1: Reviewing the effectiveness of the implementation of Recs #12-14 should be deferred. The ICANN Board should recommend that review to be carried out by

the next RDS Review Team after RDAP is implemented, and the translation and transliteration of the registration data launches.

Recommendation 15.1: The ICANN Board should ensure that implementation of RDS-WHOIS2 Review Team recommendations is based on best practice project management methodology, ensuring that plans and implementation reports clearly address progress, and applicable metrics and tracking tools are used for effectiveness and impact evaluation.

Recommendation LE.1: The ICANN Board should resolve that ICANN organization conduct regular data gathering through surveys and studies to inform a future assessment of the effectiveness of RDS (WHOIS) in meeting the needs of law enforcement. This will also aid future policy development (including the current Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Expedited Policy Development Process and related efforts).

Recommendation LE.2: The ICANN Board should consider conducting comparable surveys and/or studies (as described in LE.1) with other RDS (WHOIS) users working with law enforcement on a regular basis.

Recommendation SG.1: The ICANN Board should require that the ICANN org, in consultation with data security and privacy expert(s), ensure that all contracts with contracted parties (to include Privacy/Proxy services when such contracts exist) include uniform and strong requirements for the protection of registrant data and for ICANN to be notified in the event of any data breach. The data security expert(s) should also consider and advise on what level or magnitude of breach warrants such notification. In carrying out this review, the data security and privacy expert(s) should consider to what extent GDPR regulations, which many but not all ICANN contracted parties are subject to, could or should be used as a basis for ICANN requirements. The ICANN Board should initiate action intended to effect such changes. The ICANN Board should consider whether and to what extent notifications of breaches that it receives should be publicly disclosed.

Recommendation CC.1[25]: The ICANN Board should initiate action intended to ensure that gTLD domain names suspended due to RDS (WHOIS) contact data which the registrar knows to be incorrect, and that remains incorrect until the registration is due for deletion, should be treated as follows:

(1) The RDS (WHOIS) record should include a notation that the domain name is suspended due to incorrect data; and

(2) Domain names with this notation should not be unsuspended without correcting the data.

Recommendation CC.2: The ICANN Board should initiate action intended to ensure that all gTLD domain name registration directory entries contain at least one full set of either registrant or admin contact details comparable to those required for new registrations under the 2013 RAA (or any subsequent version thereof) or applicable policies.

Recommendation CC.3: The ICANN Board should take steps to ensure that ICANN Contractual Compliance is adequately resourced factoring in any increase in workload due to additional work required due to compliance with GDPR or other legislation/regulation.

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[25] Recommendation CC.1 was approved in part and passed through in part to a designated community group for consideration. See the 25 February 2020 Board action for more information.

Appendix D: Board-Approved SSR2 Recommendations

Recommendation 1.1: The ICANN Board and ICANN org should perform a further comprehensive review of the SSR1 recommendations and execute a new plan to complete the implementation of the SSR1 Recommendations (see Appendix D: Findings Related to SSR1 Recommendations).

Recommendation 3.2: The ICANN Board and ICANN org should ensure specific budget items relating to ICANN org's performance of SSR-related functions are linked to specific ICANN strategic plan goals and objectives. ICANN org should implement those mechanisms through a consistent, detailed, annual budgeting and reporting process.

Recommendation 3.3: The ICANN Board and ICANN org should create, publish, and request public comment on detailed reports regarding the costs and SSR-related budgeting as part of the strategic planning cycle.

Recommendation 4.1: ICANN org should continue centralizing its risk management and clearly articulate its Security Risk Management Framework and ensure that it aligns strategically with the organization's requirements and objectives. ICANN org should describe relevant measures of success and how to assess them.

Recommendation 5.1: ICANN org should implement an ISMS and be audited and certified by a third party along the lines of industry security standards (e.g., ITIL, ISO 27000 family, SSAE-18) for its operational responsibilities. The plan should include a road map and milestone dates for obtaining certifications and noting areas that will be the target of continuous improvement.

Recommendation 5.2: Based on the ISMS, ICANN org should put together a plan for certifications and training requirements for roles in the organization, track completion rates, provide rationale for their choices, and document how the certifications fit into ICANN org's security and risk management strategies.

Recommendation 5.3: ICANN org should require external parties that provide services to ICANN org to be compliant with relevant security standards and document their due diligence regarding vendors and service providers.

Recommendation 5.4: ICANN org should reach out to the community and beyond with clear reports demonstrating what ICANN org is doing and achieving in the security space. These reports would be most beneficial if they provided information describing how ICANN org follows best practices and mature, continually-improving processes to manage risk, security, and vulnerabilities.

Recommendation 7.1: ICANN org should establish a Business Continuity Plan for all the systems owned by or under the ICANN org purview, based on ISO 22301 "Business Continuity Management," identifying acceptable BC and DR timelines.

Recommendation 7.2: ICANN org should ensure that the DR plan for Public Technical Identifiers (PTI) operations (i.e., IANA functions) includes all relevant systems that contribute to the security and stability of the DNS and also includes Root Zone Management and is in line with ISO 27031. ICANN org should develop this plan in close cooperation with the Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC) and the Root Server Operators (RSO).

Recommendation 7.3: ICANN org should also establish a DR plan for all the systems owned by or under the ICANN org purview, again in line with ISO 27031.

Recommendation 7.5: ICANN org should publish a summary of their overall BC and DR plans and procedures. Doing so would improve transparency and trustworthiness beyond addressing ICANN org's strategic goals and objectives. ICANN org should engage an external auditor to verify compliance with these BC and DR plans.

Recommendation 9.1: The ICANN Board should direct the compliance team to monitor and strictly enforce the compliance of contracted parties to current and future SSR and abuse related obligations in contracts, baseline agreements, temporary specifications, and community policies.

Recommendation 10.1: ICANN org should post a webpage that includes their working definition of DNS abuse, i.e., what it uses for projects, documents, and contracts. The definition should explicitly note what types of security threats ICANN org currently considers within its remit to address through contractual and compliance mechanisms, as well as those ICANN org understands to be outside its remit. If ICANN org uses other similar terminology—e.g., security threat, malicious conduct—ICANN org should include both its working definition of those terms and precisely how ICANN org is distinguishing those terms from DNS abuse. This page should include links to excerpts of all current abuse-related obligations in contracts with contracted parties, including any procedures and protocols for responding to abuse. ICANN org should update this page annually, date the latest version, and link to older versions with associated dates of publication.

Recommendation 11.1: The ICANN community and ICANN org should take steps to ensure that access to Centralized Zone Data Service (CZDS) data is available, in a timely manner and without unnecessary hurdles to requesters, e.g., lack of auto-renewal of access credentials.

Recommendation 16.1: ICANN org should provide consistent cross-references across their website to provide cohesive and easy-to-find information on all actions—past, present, and planned—taken on the topic of privacy and data stewardship, with particular attention to the information around the RDS.

Recommendation 21.1: ICANN org and PTI operations should accelerate the implementation of new RZMS security measures regarding the authentication and authorization of requested changes and offer TLD operators the opportunity to take advantage of those security measures, particularly MFA and encrypted email.

Recommendation 22.1: For each service that ICANN org has authoritative purview over, including root-zone and gTLD-related services as well as IANA registries, ICANN org should create a list of statistics and metrics that reflect the operational status (such as availability and responsiveness) of that service, and publish a directory of these services, data sets, and metrics on a single page on the icann.org website, such as under the Open Data Platform. ICANN org should produce measurements for each of these services as summaries over both the previous year and longitudinally (to illustrate baseline behavior).

Recommendation 22.2: ICANN org should request community feedback annually on the measurements. That feedback should be considered, publicly summarized after each report, and incorporated into follow-on reports. The data and associated methodologies used to measure these reports' results should be archived and made publicly available to foster reproducibility.

Recommendation 23.1: PTI operations should update the DNSSEC Practice Statement (DPS) to allow the transition from one digital signature algorithm to another, including an anticipated transition from the RSA digital signature algorithm to other algorithms or to future post-quantum algorithms, which provide the same or greater security and preserve or improve the resilience of the DNS.

Recommendation 23.2: As a root DNSKEY algorithm rollover is a very complex and sensitive process, PTI operations should work with other root zone partners and the global community to develop a consensus plan for future root DNSKEY algorithm rollovers, taking into consideration the lessons learned from the first root KSK rollover in 2018.

Recommendation 24.1: ICANN org should coordinate end-to-end testing of the full EBERO process at predetermined intervals (at least annually) using a test plan that includes datasets used for testing, progression states, and deadlines, and is coordinated with the ICANN contracted parties in advance to ensure that all exception legs are exercised and publish the results.

Recommendation 24.2: ICANN org should make the Common Transition Process Manual easier to find by providing links on the EBERO website.

Appendix E: CCT Recommendations Pending Board Consideration

Recommendation 2: Collect wholesale pricing for legacy gTLDs.

Recommendation 3: Collect transactional pricing for the gTLD marketplace.

Recommendation 4: Collect retail pricing for the domain marketplace.

Recommendation 5: Collect secondary market data.

Recommendation 14: Consider directing ICANN organization, in its discussions with registries, to negotiate amendments to existing Registry Agreements, or in consideration of new Registry Agreements associated with subsequent rounds of new gTLDs, to include provisions in the agreements to provide incentives, including financial incentives for registries, especially open registries, to adopt proactive anti-abuse measures[26].

Recommendation 15: ICANN Org should, in its discussions with registrars and registries, negotiate amendments to the Registrar Accreditation Agreement and Registry Agreements to include provisions aimed at preventing systemic use of specific registrars or registries for DNS Security Abuse. With a view to implementing this recommendation as early as possible, and provided this can be done, then this could be brought into effect by a contractual amendment through the bilateral review of the Agreements. In particular, ICANN should establish thresholds of abuse at which compliance inquiries are automatically triggered, with a higher threshold at which registrars and registries are presumed to be in default of their agreements. If the community determines that ICANN org itself is ill-suited or unable to enforce such provisions, a DNS Abuse Dispute Resolution Policy (DADRP) should be considered as an additional means to enforce policies and deter against DNS Security Abuse. Furthermore, defining and identifying DNS Security Abuse is inherently complex and would benefit from analysis by the community, and thus we specifically recommend that the ICANN Board prioritize and support community work in this area to enhance safeguards and trust due to the negative impact of DNS Security Abuse on consumers and other users of the Internet.

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[26] The review team looked for examples of practices that could assist in proactively minimizing abuse. One such example has been proposed by EURid, the operator of the .EU registry, which will soon test a delayed delegation system. See EURid, "EURid Set to Launch First of its Kind Domain Name Abuse Prevention Tool," 2017, accessed 8 August 2018, https://eurid.eu/en/news/eurid-set-to-launch-first-of-its-kind-domain-name-abuseprevention-tool/ and Vissers T. et al. (2017), "Exploring the Ecosystem of Malicious Domain Registrations in the .eu TLD" In: Dacier M., Bailey M., Polychronakis M., Antonakakis M. (eds) Research in Attacks, Intrusions, and Defenses. RAID 2017. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 10453. Springer, Cham, accessed 8 August 2018, https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-319-66332-6_21. https://eurid.eu/media/filer_public/9e/d1/9ed12346-562d-423d-a3a4-bcf89a59f9b4/eutldecosystem.pdf. This process will not prevent registrations, but instead delay activation of a registration if a domain name is identified as being potentially abusive by machine learning algorithms. Future review teams could study this effort to consider its effectiveness and whether it could serve as a potential innovative model to help foster trust and a secure online environment. In addition, the .xyz registry may provide another example of proactive measures to combat abuse. The .xyz registry purports to have a zero-tolerance policy toward abuse-related activities on .xyz or any of their other domain extensions using a sophisticated abuse monitoring tool enabling proactive monitoring and detection in near real-time, suspending domains engaging in any of the abusive activities set out. Future review teams could explore the effectiveness of this approach by examining abuse rates over time and comparing the levels of abuse both before and after this policy.

Appendix F: RDS-WHOIS2 Recommendations Pending Board Consideration

Recommendation 4.1: The ICANN Board should initiate action to ensure ICANN Contractual Compliance is directed to proactively monitor and enforce registrar obligations with regard to RDS (WHOIS) data accuracy using data from incoming inaccuracy complaints and RDS accuracy studies or reviews to look for and address systemic issues. A risk-based approach should be executed to assess and understand inaccuracy issues and then take the appropriate actions to mitigate them.

Recommendation 4.1: The ICANN Board should initiate action to ensure that ICANN Contractual Compliance is directed to cross-reference existing data from incoming complaints and studies such as the ARS to detect patterns of failure to validate and verify RDS (WHOIS) data as required by the RAA. When such a pattern is detected, compliance action or an audit should be initiated to review compliance of the Registrar with RDS (WHOIS) contractual obligations and consensus policies.

Recommendation 5.1: The Accuracy Reporting System, which was instituted to address concerns regarding RDS (WHOIS) contact data accuracy has demonstrated that there is still an accuracy concern and therefore such monitoring must continue. ICANN organization should continue to monitor accuracy and/or contactability through either the ARS or a comparable tool/methodology.

Recommendation 10.1: The Board should monitor the implementation of the PPSAI. If the PPSAI policy does not become operational by 31 December 2019, the ICANN Board should ensure an amendment to the 2013 RAA (or successor documents) is proposed that ensures that the underlying registration data of domain name registrations using Privacy/Proxy providers affiliated with registrars shall be verified and validated in application of the verification and validation requirements under the RAA unless such verification or validation has already occurred at the registrar level for such domain name registrations.

Appendix G: SSR2 Recommendations Pending Board Consideration

Recommendation 9.2: ICANN org should proactively monitor and enforce registry and registrar contractual obligations to improve the accuracy of registration data. This monitoring and enforcement should include the validation of address fields and conducting periodic audits of the accuracy of registration data. ICANN org should focus their enforcement efforts on those registrars and registries that have been the subject of over 50 complaints or reports per year regarding their inclusion of inaccurate data to ICANN org.

Recommendation 9.3: ICANN org should have compliance activities audited externally at least annually and publish the audit reports and ICANN org response to audit recommendations, including implementation plans.

Recommendation 12.1: ICANN org should create a DNS Abuse Analysis advisory team composed of independent experts (i.e., experts without financial conflicts of interest) to recommend an overhaul of the DNS Abuse Reporting activity with actionable data, validation, transparency, and independent reproducibility of analyses as its highest priorities.

Recommendation 12.2: ICANN org should structure its agreements with data providers to allow further sharing of the data for noncommercial use, specifically for validation or peerreviewed scientific research. This special no-fee noncommercial license to use the data may involve a timedelay so as not to interfere with commercial revenue opportunities of the data provider. ICANN org should publish all data-sharing contract terms on the ICANN website. ICANN org should terminate any contracts that do not allow independent verification of methodology behind blocklisting.

Recommendation 12.3: ICANN org should publish reports that identify registries and registrars whose domains most contribute to abuse. ICANN org should include machine-readable formats of the data, in addition to the graphical data in current reports.

Recommendation 12.4: ICANN org should collate and publish reports of the actions that registries and registrars have taken, both voluntary and in response to legal obligations, to respond to complaints of illegal and/or malicious conduct based on applicable laws in connection with the use of the DNS.

Recommendation 13.1: ICANN org should establish and maintain a central DNS abuse complaint portal that automatically directs all abuse reports to relevant parties. The system would purely act as an inflow, with ICANN org collecting and processing only summary and metadata, including timestamps and types of complaint (categorical). Use of the system should become mandatory for all generic top-level domains (gTLDs); the participation of each country code top-level domain (ccTLD) would be voluntary. In addition, ICANN org should share abuse reports (e.g., via email) with all ccTLDs.

Recommendation 13.2: ICANN org should publish the number of complaints made in a form that allows independent third parties to analyze the types of complaints on the DNS.

Recommendation 14.2: To enable anti-abuse action, ICANN org should provide contracted parties with lists of domains in their portfolios identified as abusive, in accordance with SSR2 Recommendation 12.2 regarding independent review of data and methods for blocklisting domains.

Recommendation 17.1: ICANN org should create a framework to characterize the nature and frequency of name collisions and resulting concerns. This framework should include metrics and mechanisms to measure the extent to which controlled interruption is successful in identifying and eliminating name collisions. This could be supported by a mechanism to enable protected disclosure of name collision instances. This framework should allow the appropriate handling of sensitive data and security threats.

Appendix H: Prioritization Process

In its [Final Report](#) submitted to the Board on 29 May 2020, the ATRT3 Review Team included "Recommendations, Suggestions, and Observations Related to the Prioritization and Rationalization of Activities, Policies, and Recommendations." The ATRT3's Recommendation 5, in part, echoed a conversation[27] started in 2019 between the ICANN Board and leadership of all Specific Review Teams on the need to enhance the effectiveness of review recommendations and their implementation, with a focus on resourcing and prioritization of community recommendations.

To address the need for prioritization, ICANN org launched the Planning Prioritization Framework project to serve as a guide for the step of prioritization during the annual planning process. As part of this project, ICANN org held a total of 17 webinars and consultations with the community from April 2021 through January 2022, and released a *[Draft Planning Prioritization Framework Version 1](#)* in February 2022 as a suggested tool to use in the planning process.

To test the processes and methodologies developed in the draft framework and identify gaps for further improvement, ICANN org organized a [pilot](#) with selected community members in April–May 2022. A set of Board approved Specific Reviews recommendations were the activities prioritized during the pilot. Given the timing of the pilot, the output of the pilot was used by org as input for the FY23 operating planning process.

The [FY23 Pilot Prioritization](#) consisted of a series of sessions facilitated by ICANN org's Planning team. The community group was invited to focus on recommendations eligible for prioritization[28] and to rate them using the "Urgency-Importance Matrix" technique. To assist the group, the repository of recommendations for prioritization included ICANN org guidance (proposed level with an associated rationale). ICANN org received the results of the [FY23 Pilot Prioritization](#) in the format of a [list](#).

Following the conclusion of the pilot in early May 2022, ICANN org's Planning team released the *[Planning Prioritization Framework Version 2](#)* in August 2022 that includes feedback and lessons learned from the pilot.

The Planning Prioritization Framework was used during the prioritization effort in October–November 2022 to inform the [FY24 Operating Plan and Budget cycle](#). Lessons learned from this cycle were reflected in [version 3](#) of the Planning Prioritization Framework which the org released in March 2023.

ICANN org is committed to including community prioritization in any future annual operating and financial planning cycles to inform decision-making for the annual and five-year planning process.

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[27] This dialogue, at the time, had led to a draft proposal titled [Resourcing and Prioritization of Community Recommendations](#), which was shared with the community in October 2019.
[28] The prioritization effort did not include recommendations considered complete or tied to a dependency.

Appendix I: Cross-Functional Project Team on Implementation of Specific Reviews

To focus and strengthen the org's implementation work, ICANN org convened an internal cross-functional team of subject matter experts in June 2022, within a month of the FY23 Pilot Prioritization, to work through the recommendations in light of the priorities assigned by the community group during the pilot.

Using the priority list as input, the cross-functional project team completed an assessment of the resource requirements, to inform the need for use of the Supplemental Fund for Implementation of Community Recommendations (SFICR).

The SFICR serves to establish resources to "increase the capacity of the organization to address projects that are multi-year and focus on community recommendations (for policies or resulting from reviews and cross-community working groups) that are approved by the Board but do not fit within the annual Budget."

The cross-functional project team worked on establishing the implementation design and handbook. This entailed describing the implementation strategy, accompanying it with a rationale for the chosen path, articulating deliverables for implementation and associated Key Performance Indicators, running an inventory of existing work that can be leveraged, identifying stakeholders with interests and concerns, building out the work plan, as well as evaluating risks and dependencies that may affect the timeline. Furthermore, during this step, ICANN org evaluated possible dependencies among the prioritized recommendations and between the recommendations and other work or projects.

The final implementation handbook was then translated into a cross-functional work plan that forms the basis of this report.

The cross-functional project team is documenting implementation of recommendations marked complete and is monitoring, and resolving where/when appropriate and possible, dependencies to move Board-approved recommendations to prioritization.

On 16 November 2022, the Board took action to use SFICR funds toward the implementation of prioritized Specific Reviews recommendations. This Board resolution will further support the cross-functional project team in its work.