Criteria for 2021:

ICANN Generic Names Supporting Organization Council

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) is a policy-development body responsible for developing and recommending to the ICANN Board substantive policies relating to generic top-level domains. The GNSO Council is responsible for managing the policy development process in the GNSO. For more information on the work of the GNSO Council, see https://gnso.icann.org/en/about/council.

To fill a vacancy on the GNSO Council, the NomCom is seeking accomplished persons of integrity, objectivity and intelligence who meet the following criteria:

- Possess a good understanding of, and ideally experience in the GNSO Policy Development Process.
- Possess a good understanding of the ICANN environment as a whole, including the different Supporting Organizations (SO) and Advisory Committees (AC), interactions amongst them and knowledge about the multistakeholder model and its processes,
- Possess a good understanding of the GNSO structure, existing ICANN consensus policies and contracts between ICANN and registries and registrars.
- Are committed to ICANN’s mission and have an understanding of the potential impact of ICANN decisions on the global Internet community.
- Have a good understanding of the Domain Name System (DNS) and the industry structure of the domain name market.
- Have a willingness, ability and commitment to travel to and actively participate in ICANN’s three Public Meetings per year (or participate virtually if applicable), attend all monthly Council meetings and serve as a volunteer on the Council throughout the term, without compensation other than the standard ICANN reimbursement of certain expenses.
- Must not be committed to another role, within or outside the ICANN community, that may prevent the candidate from being able to commit the requisite time and attention to serving as an effective GNSO Councilor. In addition, the candidate must act independently and in the larger public interest, and not act as a representative of, nor lobby or advance the interest of any particular employer, organization, group, or committee.

In addition, the accomplished persons must possess the following skillset:

- A demonstrated capacity for thoughtful group decision-making and sound judgment.
- Expertise in the possible impacts (including costs, benefits and practical implications) of new policies relating to gTLDs on stakeholders, including commercial and non-commercial users, Internet infrastructure providers, and ICANN contracted parties.
- An ability to work and communicate in written and spoken English (although there is no requirement that English be the candidate’s first language).
Meeting the criteria and possessing the skillset above are of more importance than where the candidate is from (e.g., within versus outside the ICANN community, from a particular Supporting Organization or Advisory Committee, etc.). However, in filling this position, the NomCom will be seeking to select a Council member who reflects the diversity of the global Internet community and the wide range of policy, technical, commercial and non-commercial activities that are impacted by the DNS.

Job Responsibilities
A NomCom appointee is intended to be independent and is free to participate in Council activities according to their own conscience and views. Voting appointees are not meant to represent their current or previously affiliated ICANN community group and are encouraged to engage with the Council representatives of their appointed House in order to understand their concerns and views, so that the NomCom appointee may be an informed and effective Councilor.

Basic responsibilities include:

- Attending monthly GNSO Council meetings.
- Attending face-to-face or virtual GNSO Council meetings at ICANN’s three Public Meetings, and all other associated GNSO Council meetings.
- Attending the GNSO Council’s Strategic Planning Sessions in person or remotely
- Reviewing and understanding preparatory materials in a timely manner and engaging in discussion where applicable, both on the email list and during meetings.
- Consulting with the Council representatives of their appointed house, as the appointee deems appropriate.

The NomCom appointee’s freedom to participate in GNSO and Council activities of his/her choosing may include but are not limited to:

- Joining GNSO Working Groups, as well as Chairing them.
- Supporting GNSO Council efforts, including drafting, scoping, and other ad hoc small team efforts.
- Serving as a GNSO Council liaison to GNSO efforts.
- Run for and/or serve in any GNSO leadership position, including Chair

Time Commitment
The successful candidate(s) will be appointed to the GNSO Council at the end of the ICANN Annual General Meeting (AGM) for a term of 2 years.

Council members spend, on average, 2–10 hours per week on Council work. This increases as each of ICANN's three annual public meetings approaches.
Council members are expected to prepare in advance for any motions to be considered at a Council meeting by reading the reports submitted by Working Groups, as appropriate, and consulting with his/her appointed house, as appropriate.

Members work, on average, an additional 2–4 hours per week for each GNSO Working Group they choose to join. GNSO Council liaisons and GNSO leadership positions may require significant additional hours.