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## **MEETING DOCUMENT**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society

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Subject: Developments in Internet Governance and ICANN84 Meeting (TELECOM WP 16/10)

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Delegations will find attached the Briefing Note "Developments in Internet Governance and ICANN84 Meeting".

## **Presentation:** Developments in Internet Governance and ICANN84 Meeting

The mission of Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) is to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems. To reach another person on the Internet, you need to type an address (a name or a number) into your computer or other device. That address must be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN helps coordinate and support these unique identifiers across the world. ICANN was formed in 1998 as a nonprofit public benefit corporation with a community of participants from all over the world.

ICANN brings together a global community of participants through the **multistakeholder model (MSM)** of Internet governance. This model allows governments, businesses, civil society, the technical community, and end users to work together on policies that safeguard the Internet's functioning. To facilitate this work, ICANN holds three public meetings each year in different regions of the world. The next one, ICANN84, the Annual General Meeting (AGM), will take place between 25 and 30 October in Dublin, Ireland.

Over six days, the community will engage in a wide range of priority discussions that advance ICANN's mission. Some of the key areas of focus at ICANN84 will include:

- **The [New gTLD Program: Next Round](#):** A new round of applications is being prepared, opening opportunities for innovation and greater choice in domain names. This work also aims to make the Domain Name System (DNS) more inclusive and representative of diverse linguistic and cultural needs.
- **Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) and Universal Acceptance (UA):** Expanding the use of domain names in scripts beyond Latin is essential for enabling people to access the Internet in their own languages. Universal Acceptance ensures that all valid domain names and email addresses, regardless of script, length, or new extensions, are recognized and supported equally by all Internet-enabled applications, devices, and systems. Together, IDNs and UA contribute to making the Internet more inclusive and global.
- **DNS Abuse Mitigation:** Addressing the malicious use of domain names, such as phishing, malware, and spam, is a top priority. Combating DNS Abuse is essential to preserving trust in the Internet's infrastructure.

In addition to these priorities, ICANN84 will host the 20-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes (WSIS+20) co-facilitators, offering the community a chance to exchange views and provide input from the technical community's perspective. These discussions will help inform the **WSIS+20 Review in December**, a pivotal moment for reaffirming the global commitment to the multistakeholder model and renewing support for the Internet Governance Forum.

The continued commitment to multistakeholder governance at the Internet's technical layer has enabled it to thrive as a global network of networks. This governance approach is essential for preserving one single, interoperable Internet.

**Framing Questions:**

1. In what ways can the participation of, and coordination between, relevant national authorities and ministries be strengthened to more effectively develop positions for international and multilateral negotiations, and to enhance collaboration with stakeholders?
2. What are Member States' priorities in the DNS space, and are there observed gaps that are not addressed?