

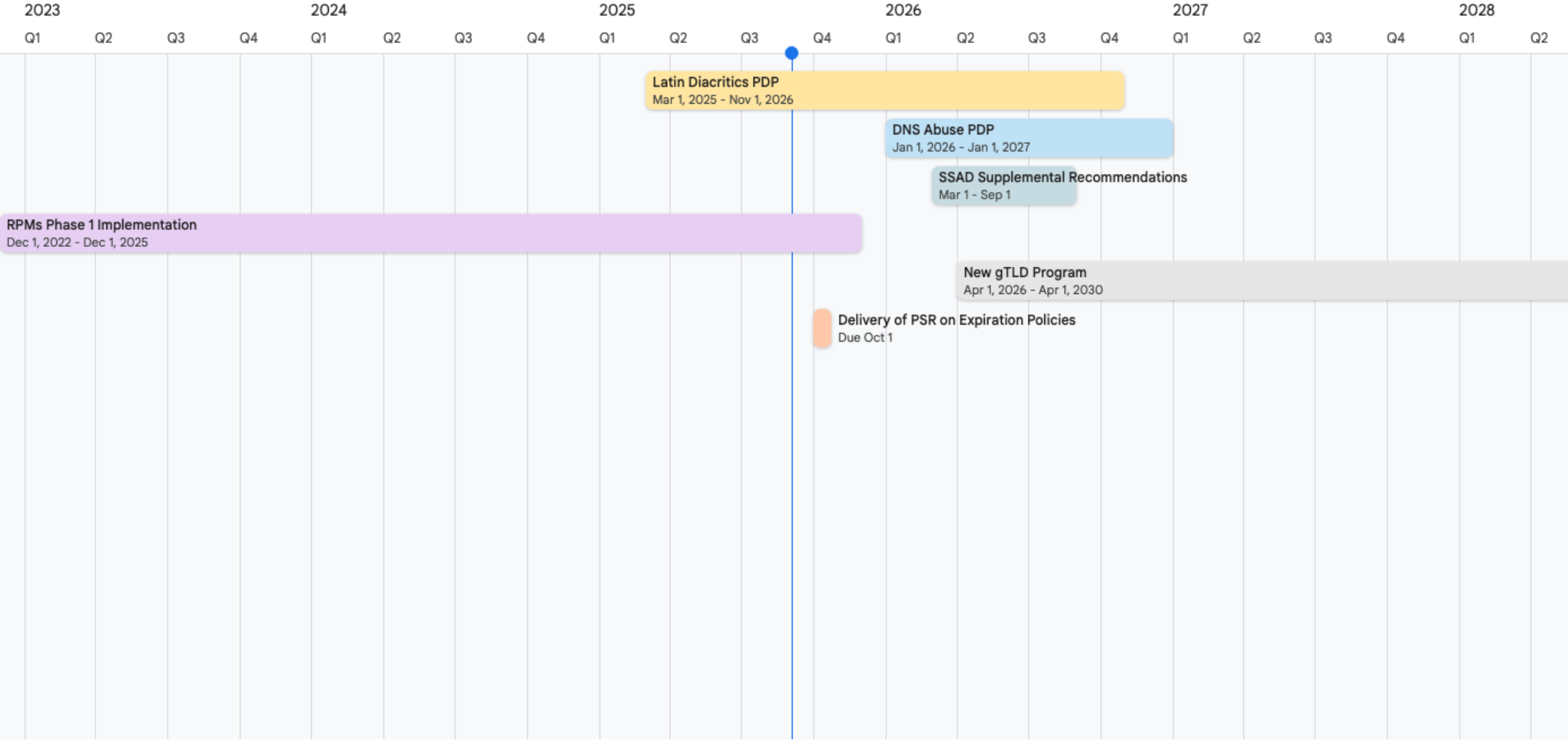
Council work currently underway or expected:

- Current: Latin Diacritics (LD) PDP
- Nearly certain: DNS Abuse PDP
- Likely: Supplemental Recommendations for SSAD (Council small team?)
- These projects are in addition to other ongoing work or where the Council is not the primary owner of the work (e.g., SCCI, reviews related work, Implementation Review Teams, short-lived small teams, other ad hoc work that may arise, etc.)

Assumptions

- The Council, broader community, and its support staff will likely be overburdened if asked to manage three or more large, parallel efforts.
- This prioritization exercise should focus on calendar year 2026, while being cognizant of the longer term outlook.

The timeline below has been developed to help with this prioritization exercise, to 1) better understand when there may be adequate capacity to introduce another project and 2) get a sense of when dependencies/related events are expected to occur. Please note that aside from the LD PDP timeline, which has an agreed upon work plan, everything else is subject to educated guessing and must NOT be taken as fact.



Program	Project	Description: What	Urgency: When	Importance: Why	What <u>Could</u> the Future Work Look Like?	Level of Effort (based on column immediately to the left)
RPM	Rights Protection Mechanisms Phase 2	RPMs Phase 2 is work that the Council has previously committed to, which is intended to focus on the UDRP. In concluding RPMs Phase 1, the Council had postponed the start of Phase 2 until Phase 1 implementation completed. The Council also agreed to consider whether amendments may be needed to the Charter before starting the work. At some point prior to reinitiating this work, a <u>Charter drafting team</u> will need to be convened. However, that step does not preclude additional data gathering and analysis happening prior.	PRIORITY? DEFER? - The Council has deferred taking next steps (i.e., establish a charter drafting team) several times, starting in February 2023.	- In considering the importance of this initiative, the Council may want to consider the passage of time since the original PDP was chartered. Is this work still a priority? Are there clear issues to address?	Intermediate Next Steps: • Review WIPO-ICA UDRP Review • Consider whether additional ICANN org analysis is needed • Convene Charter drafting team Based on preceding steps, launch a PDP on RPMs Phase 2 (UDRP) that is as narrowly focused as possible on addressing identified issues.	High , especially because of preceding steps.

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DNS Abuse	DNS Abuse	Small team convened to evaluate available data, especially related to the DNS abuse amendments in the RA and RAA. The small team is tasked with helping to determine whether gaps remain which should be investigated in an <u>Issue Report</u>.	PRIORITY - Some have connected a lack of progress on this topic to potential concerns about the multistakeholder model / WSIS+20.	- Broad SO/AC designation as a high priority topic.	N/A - Already prioritized	N/A - Already prioritized
RDDS	Registration Data Request System	A Standing Committee was established to analyze data from the RDRS and provide recommendations to the Council to help inform subsequent decisions on how to proceed with the SSAD recommendations. The Standing Committee has reached consensus on six recommendations. One of the recommendations suggests all SSAD recommendations be non-adopted in order for all SSAD/EPDP Phase 2 Recommendations to be considered as a cohesive package.	PRIORITY - It is not clear yet whether there is alignment on the priority of future work on SSAD recommendations.	- The conclusion of the two year trial period for the RDRS is concluding in November 2025. The RDRS SC had published its Findings Report for public comment and aims to deliver its Final Findings Report by end of year to the Council.	Next Steps: • Completion of the public comment period and revisions to the report as necessary. • Assuming that the Standing Committee's underlying recommendations are not altered drastically, Board non-adoption would be necessary. • A team would need to be convened to prepare Supplemental Recommendations.	Medium , given that the work is not starting from the beginning. The RDRS SC has provided six recommendations on next steps regarding RDRS and SSAD/EPDP Phase 2, including considerations on which SSAD recs need modification or can be kept as is.
RDDS	Accuracy	Small team convened to review written input received to the Council's threshold questions and to provide the	PRIORITY - Some have connected a	- Some SO/ACs have designated this as a high priority topic.	N/A - Already prioritized Small Team report has been delivered	N/A - Already prioritized

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		Council with a summary of input received. The small team is also asked to provide <u>recommendation(s) on how to best progress</u> the registration data accuracy topic. Note: There is an inability to access registration data for the purposes of determining whether there are linkages between inaccurate data and DNS abuse. However, data has shown that some validation steps have a meaningful impact in reducing DNS abuse. <i>There may be opportunities to leverage a potential PDP on DNS abuse to make incremental progress on accuracy related concerns.</i>	lack of progress on this topic to potential concerns about the multistakeholder model / WSIS+20.		to the Council, which was adopted in Aug 2025. • One recommendation has been integrated into the DNS Abuse Issue Report. • The Council has committed to developing educational materials.	
gTLDs	Moving from Rounds to an Open Process	From the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP, there is a recommendation that specifically calls for new gTLDs to be introduced via rounds. In doing so, challenges are introduced, such as the uncertainty from gaps between rounds, the need to resolve string contention, expensive startup and winddown program costs from the round format (including ASP), etc. In order to move to an ongoing and open process, a new <u>PDP</u>	PRIORITY? DEFER? - With the immediate Next Round expected to launch in April 2026, and the Board to consider the timing of the subsequent round once the list of applied-for strings for the 2026 round are confirmed, a PDP would need to conclude far enough in	- Switching to an open process would provide more certainty to potential applicants and more stability/cost-savings to ICANN org and applicants (e.g., lower application fees).	Intermediate Next Steps: • ICANN org, in implementing the Next Round, has considered the challenges described in the Description column. • Council could request a briefing from ICANN org to better understand the scope of potential change and if available, potential solutions to address the change.	High Can possibly be simplified depending on the depth of preceding analysis completed by ICANN org.

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		would presumably be needed.	advance to avoid a further round or rounds.		Based on the preceding steps, a PDP (or perhaps an EPDP) could be initiated, chartered as narrowly as possible.	
Expiration Policies	Expiration Policies	A Policy Status Report (PSR) was just published for public comment . The PSR “examines how both the Expired Domain Deletion Policy (EDDP) and Expired Registration Recovery Policy (ERRP) perform based on three overarching goals: uniformity, clarity, and sufficient notice.” Once the public comment period concludes and amendments are made, as needed, the Council will determine next steps , which may conclude that the expiration policies are functioning as needed, that a PDP is needed, or perhaps that incremental non-policy work can be done.	PRIORITY? DEFER? - TBD based on PSR	- TBD based on PSR	Intermediate Next Steps: • ICANN org drafted a PSR on the EDDP and ERRP and published it for public comment. ICANN org will integrate changes as applicable and once complete, share the PSR with the Council. • Council will review the PSR and determine what actions are necessary (e.g., none, PDP, and/or incremental non-policy work).	- TBD based on review of PSR.
Transfers	Dispute Mechanism	The Transfer Policy Review PDP Final Report included this recommendation, which was adopted by the GNSO Council: “ The Working Group recommends the GNSO request an <u>Issues Report</u> or other suitable mechanism to further research and explore the pros and cons of (i)	PRIORITY? DEFER? - TBD based on Council discussion.	- Some groups within the GNSO have expressed that this is an important issue to registrants and further work is needed.	Intermediate Next Steps: • Request an Issue Report Based on the preceding steps, a PDP could be initiated, chartered as narrowly as possible.	High

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		expanding the TDRP to registrant filers and (ii) creating a new standalone dispute resolution mechanism for registrants who wish to challenge improper transfers, including compromised and stolen domain names. There remains a need for an intermediary mechanism to remedy unauthorized transfers between ToS claw backs and litigation as well as other issues as may be identified by the GNSO. The Working Group recommends that any such additional dispute mechanism that empowers registrants should be in addition to and not prohibit any informal resolution that Registrars successfully employ in the overwhelming number of instances.” The underlying need for this specific recommendation was highlighted during the Human Rights Impact Assessment (HRIA) that was conducted after the Council adopted the Final Report.				