ccNSO Council Elections 2025

Election Report

Name
13 January 2025

ICANN | ccNSO

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1   Introduction

The 3-year term for five members of the ccNSO Council will end in March 2025, at the end of the ICANN82 Community Forum:

- Africa: Biyi Oladipo
- Asia Pacific: Jordan Carter
- Europe: Nick Wenban-Smith
- Latin America/Caribbean: Demi Getschko
- North America: Pablo Rodriguez

The ccNSO opened a call for nominations to fill those seats. The timeline of the launch of the nomination period was defined following the applicable ccNSO Guideline and was approved by the ccNSO Council in July 2024, taking into consideration the fact that ccNSO members had a possibility to ask direct question to the candidates at the ccNSO members at ICANN81, during a Question & Answer session. Joke Braeken was appointed Election Process Manager in July 2024.

2   Nomination Period

2.1   Launch Nomination Period

In accordance with the approved timeline, the nomination period started on Tuesday, 1 October 2024 (00:01 UTC).   The call for nominations was posted on the ccNSO website on 27 September 2024 and shared with the ccNSO members and ccNSO Council mailing lists. Prior to the start of the nominations, Council leadership held an informational webinar, to inform the ccTLD community about the process and the need to nominate candidates.

2.2   Closure Nomination Period

In accordance with the approved timeline, the nomination period closed on Tuesday, 22 October 2024 (23:59 UTC). Shortly after the closure of the nomination period, the Election Manager posted an announcement on the ccNSO website, giving a heads up about the Q&A with the candidates. The announcement was also shared with the ccNSO Members and ccNSO Council mailing lists.

2.3   Nomination Results

At the close of the call, the following nominations and secondings were received:

Africa

- Molehe Wesi (.za) nominated **Biyi Oladipo (.ng)** on 3 October 2024.
  - Idrissa Sar (.sn) seconded Biyi Oladipo's nomination on 4 October 2024.

There have been no further nominations or secondings.

Asia/Australia/Pacific

- Atsushi Endo (.jp) nominated **Jordan Carter (.au)** on 1 October 2024.
  - Andrew Molivurae (.vu) seconded Jordan Carter's nomination on 13 October 2024.
  - Bruce Tonkin (.au) self-seconded Jordan's nomination on 21 October.
- Rajiv Kumar (.in) nominated **Sami Mohamed Ali (.bh)** on 15 October 2024.
  - This nomination did not receive a secondment.
- Nguyen Hong Thang (.vn) self-nominated **Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy (.vn)** on 22 October 2024.
  - Boyoung Kim (.kr) seconded the nomination on 22 October.
  - Saysomvang Souvannavong (.la) seconded the nomination on 22 October.

Upon closure of the nomination period, since Sami Mohamed Ali was not validly seconded by a Representative from a different Territory, his candidacy did not meet the requirements. As per section 5.1. of the ccNSO Council election guideline, for regular nominations, a minimum of one secondment is required for a candidate to be able to continue in the election process.

Please note the Nomination Observations below. There have been no further nominations or secondings.

Europe

- Dejan Đukić (.rs and .срб) nominated **Nicklas Pousette (.se)** on 18 October 2024.
  - Guðrun Poulsen seconded Nicklas' nomination on 21 October 2024.

There have been no further nominations or secondings.

Latin America/Caribbean

- Thiago Dal-Toe (.co) self-nominated **Diego Ernesto Luna Quevedo (.co)** on 17 October 2024.
  - Jenifer Lopez (.pa) seconded Diego Ernesto's nomination on 18 October 2024.
  - María Raquel Isaula Peralta (.hn) seconded Diego's nomination on 18 October 2024.
  - Ernesto Heberto Bojórquez Floriano (.mx) seconded Diego's nomination on 21 October 2024.
- Demi Getschko (.br) self-nominated **Everton Teles Rodrigues (.br)** on 18 October 2024.

- o Jenifer Lopez (.pa) seconded Everton's nomination on 21 October 2024.
- o Rafael (Lito) Ibarra (.sv) seconded Everton's nomination on 21 October 2024.
- o Margarita Valdés (.cl) seconded Everton's nomination on 21 October 2024.

Please note the Nomination Observations below. There have been no further nominations or secondings.

North America

- Sean Copeland (.vi) nominated **Pablo Rodriguez (.pr)** on 14 October 2024.
  - o Byron Holland (.ca) seconded Pablo's nomination on 19 October 2024.

There have been no further nominations or secondings.

2.4   Nomination observations

These observations are added for transparency purposes. The election process manager did not receive any questions or comments from the ccTLD community regarding any of the topics referred to in the observations.

Nomination Observation 1: self-nominations

Section 5.1. of the ccNSO Council election guideline mentions the following:
> *"5.1 Nomination Process*
> *[…] For regular nominations, a minimum of one secondment is necessary for a candidate to be able to continue in the election process. For self-nominations a minimum of two secondments from Representatives from two ccNSO Members from different Territories in the Region are necessary for a self-nominated candidate to continue in the election process."*

The Election Process Manager received three self-nominations, by Emissaries who nominated colleagues from the same ccTLD:
- Thiago Dal-Toe (.co) self-nominated Diego Ernesto Luna Quevedo (.co) on 17 October 2024.
- Demi Getschko (.br) self-nominated Everton Teles Rodrigues (.br) on 18 October 2024.
- Nguyen Hong Thang (.vn) self-nominated Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy (.vn) on 22 October 2024.

Section 5.1. of the ccNSO Council election guideline mentions the following: *"For self-nominations a minimum of two secondments from Representatives from two ccNSO Members from different Territories in the Region are necessary for a self-nominated candidate to continue in the election process."*

At least two Representatives from the region seconded the self-nominations:
- Jenifer Lopez (.pa), María Raquel Isaula Peralta (.hn) and Ernesto Heberto Bojórquez Floriano (.mx) seconded Diego Ernesto's nomination on 18 October 2024. However, the ccNSO member database does not list Ernesto as the Representative for .mx. the

Election Process Manager therefor reached out to the .mx Representative asking to confirm the intention to second the nomination but did not receive a response.

- Jenifer Lopez (.pa) seconded Everton's nomination on 21 October 2024. Rafael (Lito) Ibarra (.sv) seconded Everton's nomination on 21 October 2024. Margarita Valdés (.cl) seconded Everton's nomination on 21 October 2024.
- Boyoung Kim (.kr) seconded the nomination for Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy (.vn) on 22 October. Saysomvang Souvannavong (.la) seconded the nomination on 22 October.

Nomination Observation 2: self-secondings

The Election Process Manager received one self-seconding, by an Emissary who seconded the nomination of a colleague from the same ccTLD.

- Bruce Tonkin (.au) self-seconded Jordan Carter (.au) his nomination on 21 October.

Section 3.2. of the ccNSO Council election guideline mentions the following:

> "Only the Representative from a ccNSO member will be able to nominate and second candidates to serve as a ccNSO Councillor. New ccNSO members can participate in the nomination process if their ccNSO membership application has been approved by the ccNSO Council one day prior to the day the nomination process starts. A Representative from a ccNSO member may self-nominate but is then not allowed to second their self-nomination. Self-nominations must be seconded by two Representatives from two other Territories in the Region."

Nomination Observation 3: eligibility to nominate or second

The latest ccNSO Council Election Guideline was adopted in December 2022, and was used for the first time in the 2024 Council Elections. The ccNSO Council election guideline, section 3.2 states: "*Only the Representative from a ccNSO member will be able to nominate and second candidates to serve as a ccNSO Councillor.*"

The ICANN Bylaws, section 10.4.e.i mentions the following:
"(e) Designation of Representative
(i) Each ccTLD manager may designate in writing a person, organization, or entity to represent the ccTLD manager in matters relating to the ccNSO ("Representative"). In the absence of such a designation, the person, organization, or entity listed as the administrative contact in the IANA database shall be deemed to be the designate of the ccTLD manager by whom the ccNSO member shall be represented."

For the current round of Council nominations, the Council leadership has recommended the following: *In the case of an incoming nomination or seconding from a non-representative, the Election Manager will send a copy of the nomination or seconding to the attention of the ccTLD representative, requesting explicit confirmation of the validity of the nomination or seconding.*

The nomination listed below was submitted by a non-Representative:

- Atsushi Endo (.jp) nominated Jordan Carter (.au)

The Election Process Manager sent a copy of the nomination to the ccTLD Representative and received confirmation about the validity of the nomination.

The secondings listed below were submitted by non-Representatives:
- Ernesto Heberto Bojórquez Floriano (.mx) seconded Diego Ernesto Luna Quevedo (.co)
- Andrew Molivurae (.vu) seconded Jordan Carter's nomination.

The Election Process Manager sent a copy of the seconding to the respective ccTLD Representatives and received confirmations from the .vu Representative. The .mx Representative did not respond.

Nomination Observation 4: Identification of the Representative

The ICANN Bylaws, section 10.4.e.(i) mentions the following:
> *"(e) Designation of Representative*
> *(i) Each ccTLD manager may designate in writing a person, organization, or entity to represent the ccTLD manager in matters relating to the ccNSO ("Representative"). In the absence of such a designation, the person, organization, or entity listed as the administrative contact in the IANA database shall be deemed to be the designate of the ccTLD manager by whom the ccNSO member shall be represented."*

The ccNSO Member database contains the following fields, to identify the Representative: Name, Surname and Email address. The Election Process Manager considered the email address to be the determining factor.

Nomination Observation 5: Seconding 2 different candidates

Jenifer Lopez (.pa) seconded 2 different candidates: She seconded Diego Ernesto's nomination on 18 October 2024 and also seconded Everton's nomination on 21 October 2024.

With respect to the nomination of individuals to serve as members of the ccNSO Council, neither the ICANN Bylaws nor the ccNSO Council Election Policy impose a limit on the number of individuals that an Emissary may nominate or endorse.

Article 3.4 of the ICANN Board Seat 11 and 12 Nomination guideline mentions the following:
> […]
> *Each ccNSO member, through its Representative, may nominate and/or second one (1) or more candidates. The nomination and/or secondment shall be published. If a ccNSO member nominates a second candidate, only the first nomination will be valid and published.*
> […]

Recommendation
The Election Process Manager recommends the ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee to verify if and how the ccNSO Council Election Guideline can be streamlined with the ccNSO Board Seat 11 and 12 Nomination Guideline.

2.5   Acceptance Nominations

In accordance to the applicable rules, the following candidates were nominated, seconded and have accepted their nomination for the Council election:

- Africa: Biyi Oladipo (.ng)
- Asia/Australia/Pacific: Jordan Carter (.au), Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy (.vn)
- Europe: Nicklas Pousette (.se)
- Latin America/Caribbean: Everton Teles Rodrigues (.br), Diego Ernesto Luna Quevedo (.co)
- North America: Pablo Rodriguez (.pr)

All candidates participated in a Question & Answer session, held at ICANN81 in Istanbul. Six out of seven candidates submitted written candidate statements ahead of the Q&A. Barrack Otieno (AFTLD) moderated the session, which provided the ccNSO members and broader ccTLD community an opportunity to interact with the candidates from their respective regions.

3   Regions without elections: Africa, Europe, North America

As only one candidate was nominated and seconded within the nomination period for the African, European and North American ICANN geographical regions, no elections needed to be held in those regions. The nominated candidates agreed to participate in a Q&A session with the community. Since at the close of nominations there are no more valid candidates in the aforementioned geographic regions than there are seats on the ccNSO Council available for those regions, the nominated candidates shall be selected to serve on the ccNSO Council. The elected Councillors will take their seats at the end of the ICANN82 ccNSO Council meeting, in March 2025.

4   Regions with elections: Asia/Australia/Pacific and Latin America/Caribbean

In accordance with the applicable rules, two candidates from the Asia/Australia/Pacific and two candidates from the Latin America/Caribbean region were nominated, seconded and have accepted their nomination. Consequently, an election needed to be held among the ccNSO members of the Asia/Australia/Pacific and Latin America/Caribbean Regions respectively, according to the timeline previously agreed upon by the ccNSO Council. Only ccNSO members from a Geographic Region are allowed to vote for candidates to the ccNSO Council from that Geographic Region. All candidates interacted with the ccNSO members and broader ccTLD

community at a Question and Answer session, held during the ccNSO Members Meeting at ICANN81.

4.1   Launch of the elections

The voting started on Wednesday, 27 November 2024, 00:01 UTC (00:01 UTC). A formal election notice was published on the ccNSO website and shared with the ccnso-members@icann.org and ccnsocouncil@icann.org mailing lists. The election notice contained, among others, the following information:
- The names of the candidates and their candidate statements
- Information on how the election would be conducted
- Election opening and closing dates

The ballots were sent by tally@icann.org, to the e-mail address of the Emissaries of the Asia/Australia/Pacific and Latin America/Caribbean region ccNSO Members respectively, as listed in the ccNSO Members database.

Since the election was for one seat per region, each eligible Emissary was entitled to vote for up to one candidate. For each ballot, a maximum of 1 candidate could be selected. There was a possibility to submit ballots without selecting any of the candidates. Each Emissary received 1 ballot only. Emissaries could vote an unlimited number of times, but only the last vote submitted was counted. When the results were displayed, the votes are only identified by the ballot ID, and not by the voter's email address.

As per the relevant guideline, a majority of all the Emissaries in the Geographic Region entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum, and the selected candidate must receive the votes of a majority of those cast by the Emissaries from the Geographic Region. The winner is the candidate who receives the plurality of the votes.

4.2   Closure of the elections

The election closed on Wednesday, 18 December 2024, 23:59 UTC, according to the timeline previously agreed upon by the ccNSO Council.

4.3   Election results
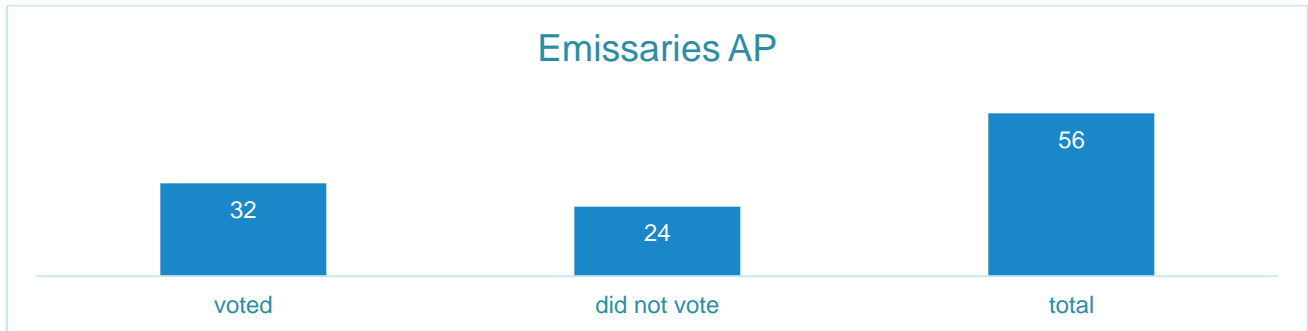
Asia/Australia/Pacific

At the time of ballot distribution, there were 57 members from the Asia/Australia/Pacific region, corresponding to 56 Territories and 56 Emissaries. Each Emissary received one (1) unique ballot.
Two candidates were nominated, seconded, and accepted their nominations in accordance with the established rules and timeline. An election was therefore conducted among ccNSO members from the region.

Voting Outcome:
- Total votes cast: 32 Emissaries (57 % turnout)
- Jordan Carter: 24 votes
- Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy: 8 votes

The quorum was successfully met, and the candidate with the majority of votes cast, Jordan Carter, has been elected.

Emissaries AP

	voted	did not vote	total
	32	24	56

Latin America/Caribbean region

When the ballots were distributed, the ccNSO counted 29 members from the Latin Amarica/Caribbean region, corresponding to 29 Territories, and therefor 29 Emissaries. Each Emissary received one (1) unique ballot.
Two candidates were nominated, seconded, and accepted their nominations in accordance with the established rules and timeline. An election was therefore conducted among ccNSO members from the region.

Voting Outcome:
- Total votes cast: 16 Emissaries (55 % turnout)
- Everton T. Rodrigues: 13 votes
- Diego Ernesto Luna Quevedo: 3 votes

The quorum was successfully met, and the candidate with the majority of votes cast, Everton T. Rodrigues, has been elected.

Emissaries LAC

	voted	did not vote	total
	16	13	29

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4.4   Election observations

Election Observation 1: quorum specification

According to the ccNSO Council Election Guideline and Article 10.4.i of the ICANN Bylaws, a majority of all eligible Emissaries in the Geographical Region constitutes a quorum, and the elected candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast by the Emissaries from the geographical region. The winner shall be the candidate who receives the plurality of the votes.

Regarding the decision-making by the ccNSO Membership, the ccNSO Internal Rules specify that the quorum for electronic votes by the ccNSO members shall be at least thirty-three percent (33%) of the total number of possible Emissary votes and at least the vote of three (3) Emissaries per ICANN Region. The Internal Rules also specify that provisions in section 2 of the ccNSO internal rules shall apply to all voting by the ccNSO Membership, unless otherwise provided in the ICANN Bylaws or the Rules.

Furthermore, as per the ccNSO Internal rules, the governance of the ccNSO is based on three different sources. In the event of conflict, they are ranked in order of precedence:
a. First: The ICANN Bylaws.
b. Second: The Rules for the ccNSO Membership (hereinafter - Rules).
c. Third: Operating Procedures (also referred to as "ccNSO Guidelines").
The purpose of the Operating Procedures is to set forth a detailed course of action for operational or administrative activities. These are developed at the initiative of the ccNSO Council.

Election Observation 1: meeting the quorum

According to the ccNSO Council Election guideline and Article 10.4.i of the ICANN Bylaws, a majority of all eligible Emissaries in the Geographical Region constitutes a quorum, and the elected candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast by the Emissaries from the geographical region. The winner shall be the candidate who receives the plurality of the votes.
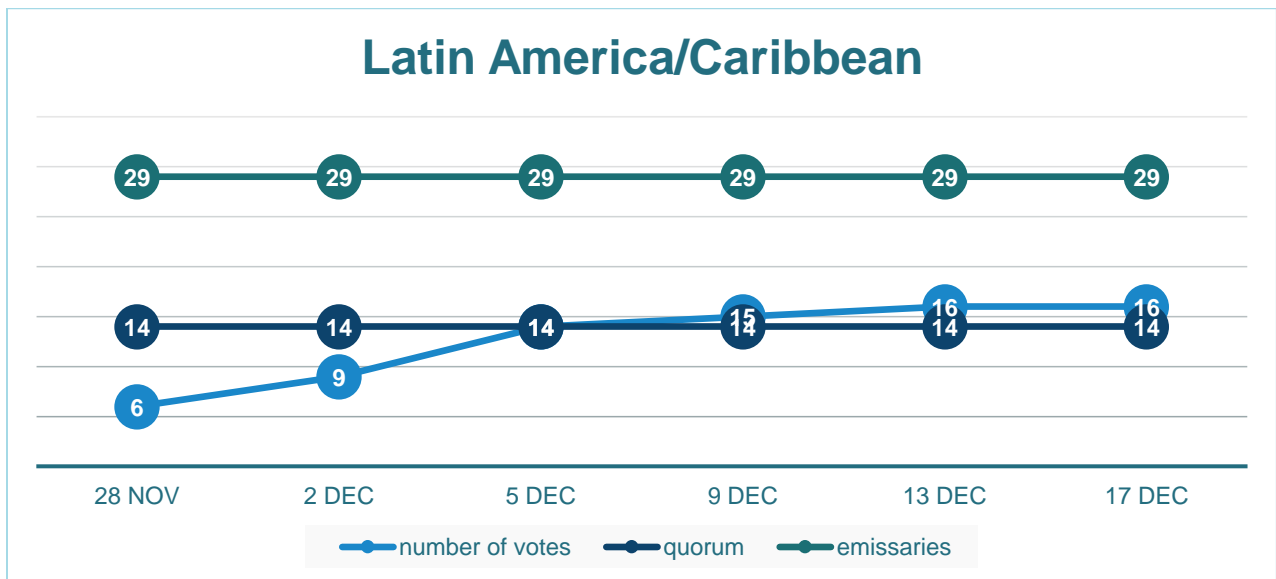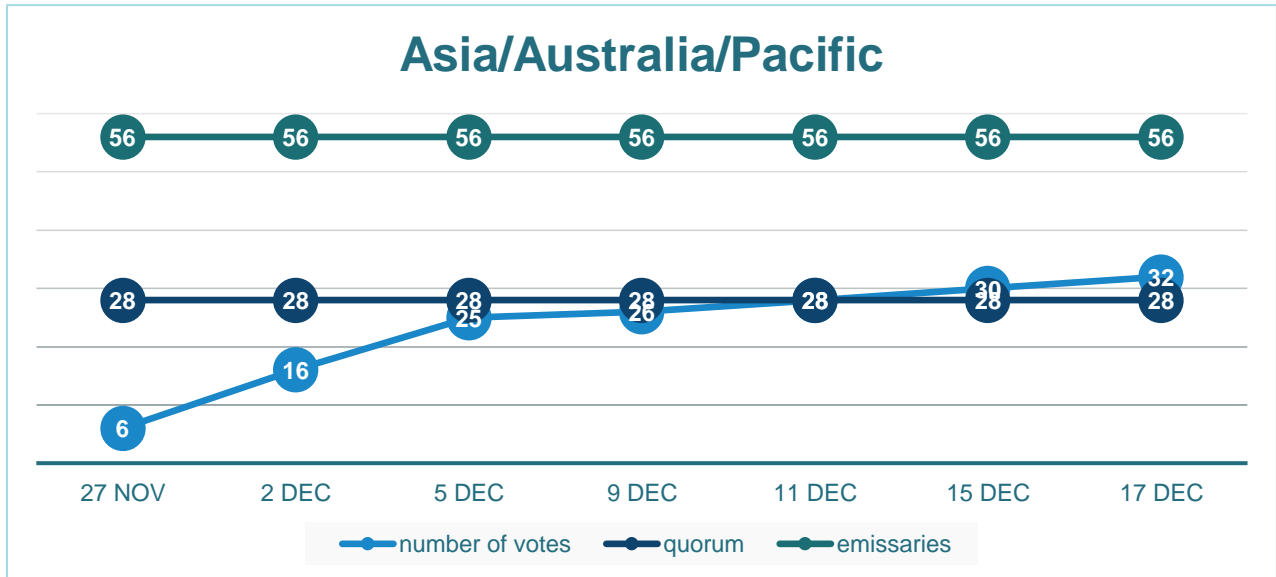
The election process manager sent several reminders via the ccNSO members mailing list and the voting tool. Tally reminders for both regions were sent on 2, 4, 9 and 13 December. Status updates regarding the number of votes received were sent to the ccNSO members on 9 December and to Council on 12 December. The Council Chair participated in a LACTLD Election Webinar, and individual Councilors also reached out to members from their region.

Recommendation

During its 211th meeting, the ccNSO Council approved the publication of the list of territories as proposed for Board nomination process Seat 12 FY 25, specifically which territory has voted and to which ICANN Region they relate. In line with this, and as part of the continuous improvement cycle, a special meeting with a sub-regional group will be held end January 2025. During this meeting, ccTLD managers from the sub-region will be alerted about the upcoming Board seat 12

voting process and will be informed which territories from the sub-region voted in the Council election process.

The Election Process Manager recommends the ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee to ascertain, whether the proposals to increase the voting under the Board Seat 11 and 12 Guideline, could be used for the increasing voting during future Council elections.

Asia/Australia/Pacific

	27 NOV	2 DEC	5 DEC	9 DEC	11 DEC	15 DEC	17 DEC
emissaries	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
quorum	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
number of votes	6	16	25	26	28	30	32

number of votes · quorum · emissaries

Latin America/Caribbean

	28 NOV	2 DEC	5 DEC	9 DEC	13 DEC	17 DEC
emissaries	29	29	29	29	29	29
quorum	14	14	14	14	14	14
number of votes	6	9	14	15	16	16

number of votes · quorum · emissaries

Election Observation 2 and recommendation: procedure when quorum is not met

Nor the ICANN Bylaws, nor the ccNSO Council election Guideline provide guidance regarding what needs to happen when the quorum cannot be reached.

Recommendation
The Election Process Manager recommends the ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee to verify if and how the ccNSO Council Election Guideline can be adjusted to provide guidance what needs to happen if the quorum is not met.

5 Conclusion

The elected candidates are:

- Africa: Biyi Oladipo (.ng)
- Asia/Australia/Pacific: Jordan Carter (.au)
- Europe: Nicklas Pousette (.se)
- Latin America/Caribbean: Everton Teles Rodrigues (.br)
- North America: Pablo Rodriguez (.pr)

The Council Election process 2025 will formally close 7 days after adoption and publication of this report. The ccNSO Council Chair is requested to provide the ICANN Secretary prompt written notice of the selection of ccNSO Council members under section 10.4 (i) of the ICANN Bylaws. The Secretariat is requested to publish the report on the ccNSO website.

ANNEX A: Links

- Save the date: ccNSO Council election webinar.
  https://ccnso.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-3-12sep24-en.htm
- Call for nominations to the ccNSO Council
  https://ccnso.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-27sep24-en.htm
- List of candidates and next steps ccNSO Council elections
  https://ccnso.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-31oct24-en.htm
- Candidate statements
  Asia/Australia/Pacific: Jordan Carter (.au), Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy (.vn)
  Europe: Nicklas Pousette (.se)
  Latin America/Caribbean: Everton Teles Rodrigues (.br), Diego Ernesto Luna Quevedo (.co)
  North America: Pablo Rodriguez (.pr)
- Question and Answer session ICANN81
  https://sched.co/1p2JJ
- Election notice
  o ccNSO Council Asia/Australia/Pacific
    https://ccnso.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-2-25nov24-en.htm
  o ccNSO Council Latin America/Caribbean region
    https://ccnso.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-25nov24-en.htm
- Election results
  o ccNSO Council Asia/Australia/Pacific
    https://ccnso.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-20dec24-en.htm
  o ccNSO Council Latin America/Caribbean region
    https://ccnso.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-2-20dec24-en.htm
- ICANN Bylaws, article 10
  https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/bylaws-en/#article10
- ccNSO Council Election Guideline
  https://ccnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/field-attached/guideline-ccnso-council-election-procedure-15dec22-en.pdf
- ccNSO Membership Internal Rules
  https://ccnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/field-attached/internal-membership-rules-26oct22-en.pdf
- Nominate & second: archives
  https://lists.icann.org/hyperkitty/list/ccnso-nominations@icann.org/