

FAQ for new SSC members

Note: The [SSC charter](#) and [standard selection process](#) are the authoritative resources for the SSC. Please refer to these documents for detailed information about the topics below.

What is the role of the SSC?

At the request of the GNSO Council, the SSC evaluates candidates for ICANN structures and roles and recommends to the Council which candidate(s) should be appointed. SSC recommendations are subject to Council approval.

In some cases, the Council may instruct the SSC to prepare and issue calls for applications, but this is not common.

What is the time commitment for a member?

The SSC normally receives several assignments per year, but the number varies. Over the course of an assignment, members will usually attend 2-3 meetings. They will also devote time outside of meetings to reviewing and evaluating candidate materials, coordinating with their SG/C as applicable, and providing input on the SSC mailing list.

As a standing committee, the SSC remains available for new assignments from Council at any time, but the commitment is typically minimal between assignments.

What are the main tools I will use as an SSC member?

The public SSC [wiki](#) is the primary resource used by the SSC to complete its work. There will be a wiki page for each assignment summarizing the key information you will need.¹

The SSC also uses its publicly-archived [mailing list](#) to support deliberations and SSC business.

What is the sequence of a typical selection process?

You can find a detailed description of the standard process [here](#), but in brief, the following steps are typical:

- Council designs and launches the Expressions of Interest process, assigning the selection to the SSC.
- SSC meets to review the assignment and evaluation criteria.
- The SSC receives the list of candidates and applicable supporting materials.
- SSC members fill out a poll individually to organize thoughts on candidates.

¹ There is also a private wiki space only accessible to SSC members for cases when certain materials are to be kept private, but this is less commonly used. See additional information about transparency below.

- SSC meets to review poll results, deliberate on candidates, and come to preliminary agreement of ranking of candidates.
- Consensus call is held by non-objection on the mailing list following the meeting.
- SSC submits recommendation to GNSO Council for its consideration via motion.

What is the consensus model for the SSC?

The SSC operates by full (unanimous) consensus. Please see the SSC charter for additional guidance for cases where the SSC is unable to reach full consensus.

What if I need to miss a meeting?

Email gns0-secs@icann.org prior to the meeting. Please make sure to catch up with notes/recordings and provide any input you have using the mailing list.

What if I need to miss an entire selection process?

Please work with your SG/C to identify an alternate who can participate in your place for the length of the selection process. See additional details in the charter and contact SSC support staff with any questions.

What if I would like to apply for a role that the SSC is assigned to consider?

Let the SSC know that you plan to apply and that an alternate will need to serve on the SSC for this selection. Work with your SG/C to identify an alternate who can participate in your place for the length of the selection process. See additional details in the charter and contact SSC support staff with any questions.

Will candidates be able to access the SSC's deliberations?

SSC meeting recordings, meeting notes, and mailing list archives are generally public, as are application materials submitted by candidates.

If the SSC determines that it needs to keep certain application materials private or conduct some or all of its deliberations in private, it is expected to provide a rationale with its recommendations. There is a private wiki space accessible only by SSC members that can be used in these cases.

What if the SSC needs additional guidance?

The SSC is a GNSO Council Committee and works under the management of the GNSO Council. If the SSC has questions or concerns about the assignment, these can be relayed to GNSO Council leadership through the SSC member representing GNSO Council leadership.