ICANN | GNSO
Generic Names Supporting Organization

Policy Briefing
ICANN61 Edition

The GNSO Background Briefings are produced by ICANN's Policy staff supporting the GNSO. These are drafted specifically in preparation for ICANN meetings to provide the Community with concise background information on all relevant GNSO policy efforts.

For more information on the GNSO @ ICANN61:

🌐 **gnso.ICANN.org/ICANNmeeting**   🐦 **@ICANN_GNSO**

Welcome to ICANN61 from the GNSO Chair

Dear Colleagues:

ICANN61 is fast approaching, and the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) is looking forward to a busy week in Puerto Rico. On behalf of the Council leadership and the entire GNSO Council, I encourage you to participate, whether in person or remote. This is the first ICANN meeting of 2018 and my first ICANN public meeting as the GNSO Chair. I look forward to working with the Council and the broader GNSO community on seizing new opportunities while also making headway on existing projects.

At the end of January 2018, the GNSO Council held, for the first time, a three-day, face-to-face strategic planning meeting. Our principal aim was to think critically about "big picture" issues that are difficult to cover in the typical Council meeting. Through these discussions, we sought to better understand our role under the new ICANN Bylaws as an independent entity. We also explored possible changes that could help us fulfill our responsibilities more efficiently, effectively, and collaboratively. At ICANN61, we will use the momentum from the January session to deliver on our responsibilities as the manager of the GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) and member of the Empowered Community.

GNSO working groups will be meeting to advance work in specific areas of policy development. The New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group (WG) is making progress towards its Initial Report. It will use the meeting time at ICANN61 to solidify the report's content. Work Track 5, a sub-team of the WG devoted to the issue of geographic names at the top-level, will share an update about its progress and gather input on key issues.

The Next-Generation Registration Directory Service (RDS) PDP WG is expected to continue its focus on defining potentially-legitimate purposes for processing registration data, the data elements required for each of those purposes, and potential users of that data. As of the end of January 2018, 49 initial points of rough consensus had been reached during iterative and ongoing deliberation. The members of this PDP are conscious of the dynamic environment in privacy law and will be taking this into account in their deliberations.

The Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs PDP WG will also be holding several open meetings at ICANN61. They are expected to continue their review of the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) dispute resolution procedure, one of the new RPMs created for the 2012 New gTLD Program. *continued next page*

Meanwhile, one of our PDPs is entering the concluding phase of its work. The International Governmental Organization and International Non-Governmental Organization (IGO-INGO) Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP will meet at ICANN61 as it works towards the publication of its Final Report, with community comment to follow.

GNSO community work on a number of additional projects continue. This includes the reconvened PDP WG that is considering a possible modification to prior GNSO policy recommendations concerning the protection of Red Cross National Society names, as well as the implementation of the GNSO Review recommendations.

As with other ICANN meetings, ICANN61 will feature cross-community sessions on topics that draw participation from across the ICANN community. The session "A Walk in the Shoes of a New gTLD Registry Operator" may be of particular interest to participants from the GNSO. This session will provide insight into the experiences of registry operators, including the challenges and opportunities that arose from the 2012 New gTLD Program.

Other highlights for the GNSO community include joint meetings with the ICANN Board, the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), and a face-to-face meeting with the New gTLD Auction Proceeds Cross Community Working Group. These sessions serve as important touchpoints between the GNSO and other parts of the ICANN community.

ICANN61 will be a full meeting with no shortage of opportunities to contribute and get involved. I encourage you to actively engage with the GNSO throughout our six days together. Face-to-face meetings offer invaluable time for intensive collaboration and cooperation; they are truly a time when the GNSO comes together as a community. Please don't hesitate to reach out to a Council member, myself, or a member of the policy support staff to discuss any of the many topics currently on our collective plate.

Wishing you happy, safe, and healthy travels. See you soon!

Heather Forrest
GNSO Chair

ICANN61 at a Glance

ICANN61 is the Community Forum of 2018. The Community Forum features a six-day format that follows the traditional ICANN public meeting structure. There will be time dedicated to Supporting Organization (SO) and Advisory Committee (AC) work, as well as cross-community interaction. The Community Forum includes Constituency Day, cross-community sessions, and the Public Forum. Community members following the work of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) are encouraged to attend the GNSO Working Sessions on Sunday, 11 March 2018 (Day 2) and the GNSO Council Public Meeting scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 14 March 2018 (Day 5).

The GNSO Policy Support Team has prepared this briefing document to help community members prepare for ICANN61. It provides an overview of the status of GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Groups (WGs). It also covers GNSO policy-related activities, including GNSO co-chartered Cross-Community Working Groups and PDP Implementation Review Teams (IRTs). The document includes links for additional background reading that will aid preparation for sessions in Puerto Rico and support active participation by all attendees.

For those who are new to the GNSO's policy development efforts or those who could use a refresher, we highly recommend you take the **Introduction to the GNSO** course on **ICANN Learn**. The course will help you navigate through the structure and content of this Policy Briefing with a better understanding of PDPs. All are encouraged to enroll.

Please note that any reference to meeting times in this document is provisional. Please consult the **ICANN meeting schedule** for the latest information.

ICANN61 MEETING INFORMATION
- Meeting page: **https://meetings.icann.org/en/sanjuan61**
- Schedule: **https://61.schedule.icann.org/**
- Register for ICANN61: **https://registration.icann.org/**
- General remote participation info: **https://meetings.icann.org/en/remote**
- GNSO session remote participation details: **https://community.icann.org/x/3wC8B**
- Expected standard of behavior: **https://go.icann.org/2ChDUjG**

GNSO-RELATED INFORMATION
- GNSO one-stop shop for ICANN61: **https://gnso.icann.org/en/icannmeeting**
- Project list: **https://gnso.icann.org/en/council/project**

If you have any questions about or suggestions for this Policy Briefing or GNSO policy activities, please contact us at **policy-staff@ICANN.org**. Safe travels to those traveling to San Juan and we look forward to a productive meeting.

Policy Development Process: Next-Generation Registration Directory Service to Replace WHOIS

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

In April 2015, the ICANN Board requested this Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) PDP. The goal of the PDP is to "define the purpose of collecting, maintaining, and providing access to generic top-level domain (gTLD) registration data, and consider safeguards for protecting data". The Board also asked the GNSO to "[use] the recommendations in the **Expert Working Group (EWG) Final Report** as an input to, and, if appropriate, as the foundation for a new gTLD policy."

At the end of January 2016, the PDP WG commenced its deliberations, attempting to answer questions posed in the PDP Final Issue Report and charter. During Phase 1 of this PDP, the WG has been tasked with providing the GNSO Council with recommendations on the following two questions: (1) What are the fundamental requirements for gTLD registration data? (2) Are a new policy framework and next-generation (next-gen) registration directory services (RDS) needed to address these requirements?

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Comprehensive 'WHOIS' policy reform remains the source of long-running discussions within ICANN. Any discussion of the 'WHOIS' system for gTLD domain name registration data – hereafter called gTLD registration directory services (RDS) – involves various topics. These include purpose, accuracy, availability, privacy, data protection, cost, policing, intellectual property protection, security, and malicious use and abuse. ICANN's requirements for gTLD domain name registration data collection, maintenance, and provision have undergone some important changes. Nevertheless, after more than 15 years of GNSO task forces, working groups, workshops, surveys, and studies, the policy is still in need of comprehensive reforms that address the many contentious issues attached to it.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The RDS PDP WG has been working on the fundamental requirements for gTLD registration data and directory services. It has also been working to understand whether a new policy framework and next-generation RDS are needed to address these requirements.

The WG is currently working to reach initial rough consensus agreement on key concepts related to the WG's charter questions concerning RDS users/purposes, data elements, privacy, and access.

Since ICANN60, the WG has focused on defining:

(1)   potentially-legitimate purpose(s) for processing registration data,
(2)   the data elements required for each of those purposes, and
(3)   potential users of that data.

Starting from the purposes listed in the EWG Final Report, small drafting teams in the WG have been formed to better understand and then define each purpose for full WG discussion. The WG continuously uses weekly calls and polls to facilitate development of tentative rough consensus agreements on these topics and associated key concepts, including the criteria for evaluating the legitimacy of purposes for processing registration data.

As of the end of January 2018, **49 initial points** of rough consensus had been reached during iterative and ongoing deliberation. The WG drafted an overall **statement of purpose** for registration data and directory services, which guided all initial agreements. The WG also drafted detailed definitions for 12 potentially-legitimate purposes and related data, posted on its **Phase 1 Documents** page (under "Final Outputs produced by Drafting Teams as input to full WG deliberation").
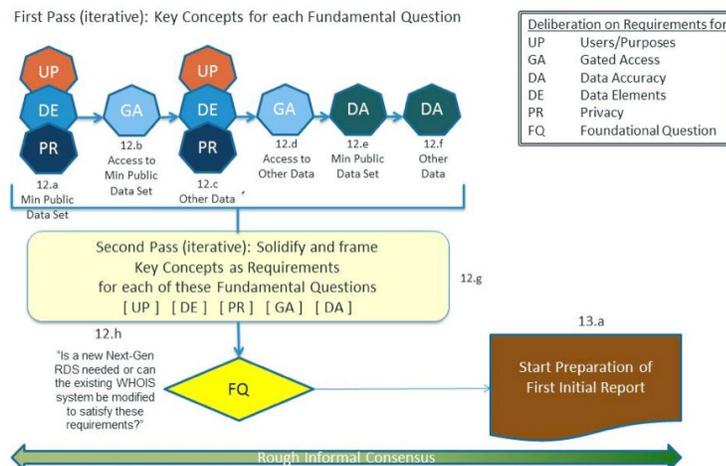
WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The WG is continuing its current task to reach rough consensus agreements on key concepts concerning purposes for processing registration data elements, including those beyond a Minimum Public Data Set. Specifically, the WG will continue to use weekly polls to reach rough consensus on key concepts for which purposes and data elements must be supported by the RDS, and whether it is mandatory or optional to collect all identified data elements. The WG will then try to answer other charter questions for that universe of data elements, including:
• Users/purposes (who needs each data element and why?),
• Access (should access to each data element be public or controlled in some way?), and
• Privacy (how do data protection and privacy laws apply to each data element?).

The WG will apply **answers** provided by both independent legal counsel and senior EU privacy experts concerning RDS compliance with data protection laws, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The WG will also take into consideration the efforts by ICANN and the community to enable near-term WHOIS compliance with GDPR.

As required in Phase 1 of the PDP charter, the WG is in the process of establishing a foundation for completing deliberations on possible requirements. They will use the key concepts agreed to by the WG, along with guidance on data protection laws provided by external experts, and feedback obtained from the community at ICANN59. The goal is to reach as strong of a consensus as possible for each possible requirement. Due to interdependencies, WG deliberation will likely continue to be iterative, especially on fundamental questions pertaining to purpose, data, and privacy.

Note: The graphic above illustrates the iterative approach in the WG deliberation. The numbers (e.g., 12.a, 12.b…13.a) refer to the steps in the PDP WG Phase 1 **Work Plan**.

Currently, the WG aims to begin drafting the first of two initial reports planned for Phase 1 in the first half of 2018. Ideally, the first initial report will include responses to the first five of eleven questions in Phase 1. Further input opportunities will occur throughout the WG's Phase 1 deliberations, as well as during Phases 2-3, should the GNSO decide a next-generation directory service is needed to meet Phase 1 requirements.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Anyone interested can join this effort at any time. Complete the registration form at **goo.gl/forms/bb65iIznLv** or contact the GNSO Secretariat **gnso-secs@icann.org**.

MORE INFORMATION

- PDP Webpage: **gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/rds**

- WG Workspace: **community.icann.org/x/rjJ-Ag**

- WG Work Plan: **community.icann.org/x/oIxlAw**

- WG Charter: **gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/whois-ng-gtld-rds-charter-07oct15**

- Final Issue Report: **https://go.icann.org/2En83UJ**

- Board-GNSO Process Framework for this PDP: **https://go.icann.org/2EG1V9s**

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to its Resolution on 8 November 2012, the ICANN Board directed the ICANN President and CEO to launch a new effort to redefine the purpose of collecting, maintaining, and providing access to gTLD registration data, and consider safeguards for protecting data. This effort would serve as a foundation for new gTLD policy and contractual negotiations. Moreover, as part of a Board-initiated GNSO PDP, the Board directed the preparation of an Issue Report on the purpose of collecting and maintaining gTLD registration data, and on solutions to improve accuracy and access to gTLD registration data. The Board then went on to pass a resolution that led to the creation of the **EWG**. The Board referred to this as a "two-pronged approach" that is based on "broad and responsive action" in relation to the reform of gTLD Registration Data.

The ICANN Board approved a Process Framework to enable effective consideration of the many significant and interdependent policy areas that the GNSO must address. GNSO Councilors and Board members collaboratively developed this Process Framework to structure this complex and challenging PDP for success. This phased process includes:

- Phase 1: Establishing requirements to determine if and why a next-generation RDS is needed to replace today's WHOIS system;
- Phase 2: If so, designing a new policy framework that details functions that must be provided by a next-generation RDS to support those requirements; and
- Phase 3: Providing guidance for how a next-generation RDS should implement those policies, coexisting with and eventually replacing the legacy WHOIS system.

Throughout this three-phase process, the many interrelated questions that must (at minimum) be addressed by the PDP include:

- Users/Purposes: Who should have access to gTLD registration data and why (i.e., for what purposes)?
- Gated Access: What steps should be taken to control data access for each user/purpose?
- Data Accuracy: What steps should be taken to improve data accuracy?
- Data Elements: What data should be collected, stored, and disclosed?
- Privacy: What steps are needed to protect data and privacy?
- Coexistence: What steps should be taken to enable next-generation RDS coexistence with and replacement of the legacy WHOIS system?
- Compliance: What steps are needed to enforce these policies?
- System Model: What system requirements must be satisfied by any next-generation RDS implementation?
- Cost: What costs will be incurred and how must they be covered?
- Benefits: What benefits will be achieved and how will they be measured?
- Risks: What risks do stakeholders face and how will they be reconciled?

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Marika Konings, Lisa Phifer (consultant), Caitlin Tubergen

Policy Development Process: New Generic Top-Level Domain Subsequent Procedures

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN61 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG) is set to **meet** on Saturday, 10 March, from 12:15-15:00 and Wednesday, 14 March, from 8:30-10:15 for face-to-face working sessions. It expects to provide updates and seek feedback on potential recommendations/outcomes on the number of different topics currently under discussion within the WG's Work Tracks (WTs) 1-4. In addition, the WG's WT5, dedicated to geographic names at the top-level, will seek to advance its work during its face-to-face session.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The PDP on New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures was initiated in December 2015 and chartered in January 2016. It aims to determine what, if any, changes need to be made to the existing policy recommendations from the 2007 ***Final Report on the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains***, such as:
- Clarifying, amending, or overriding existing policy principles, recommendations, and implementation guidance;
- Developing new policy recommendations; and,
- Supplementing or developing new implementation guidance

It should be noted that the existing policy recommendations adopted by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council and ICANN Board have "been designed to produce a systemized and ongoing mechanisms for applicants to propose new top-level domains." Essentially, this means that these recommendations will remain in place unless the PDP WG determines that changes are needed.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The New gTLD Program marked a seminal moment in ICANN's history. In spite of great interest and over 1,000 successful TLD delegations, changes to existing policies and implementation guidance might be needed for subsequent procedures of new gTLD launches. The **Final Issue Report** and the PDP WG **charter** identified a number of subjects that require analysis and potential policy development.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The PDP WG started its work on 22 February 2016 and began deliberations on a set of six overarching or foundational subjects, and sought the community's input on those subjects. The PDP WG has focused its deliberations on refining proposals related to three of these overarching issues. The PDP WG put substantial effort into the four separate WTs that were established to address the remaining subjects identified in the WG's charter. After completing preliminary discussions on their respective topics and considering input received through public comment, the WTs aim to complete their preliminary recommendations/outcomes, as well as to identify areas where they are specifically seeking community input.

The PDP's WT5 has been formed and is devoted solely to the issue of geographic names at the top-level. WT5 has a shared leadership model amongst the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), and the GNSO. Each of these groups have identified a co-leader, who helped WT5 agree to its **Terms of Reference**. WT5 has begun its substantive deliberations.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The PDP WG and WT1-4 have nearly concluded preliminary deliberations and have considered input and feedback received through public consultations (e.g., face-to-face meetings, public comment). For the purpose of inclusion in its Initial Report, the PDP WG aims to complete its preliminary recommendations/outcomes, as well as identify areas where specific community input is needed. The WG aims to complete and publish its Initial Report for public comment shortly after ICANN61.

Regarding WT5 on geographic names at the top-level, it will continue its deliberations, particularly around determining what is a geographic name in the context of the New gTLD Program as well as the corresponding treatment of those names.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

This PDP WG is open to all participants. If you are interested in joining the WG effort, please email **gnso-secs@ICANN.org**.

MORE INFORMATION

- PDP Webpage: **http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/new-gtld-subsequent-procedures**

- WG Workspace: **community.icann.org/x/RgV1Aw**

- WG Charter: **https://go.icann.org/2G7BdUf**

- Final Issue Report: **https://go.icann.org/2Eoutkv**

BACKGROUND

While the application submission period for the initial new gTLD round closed in June 2012, the GNSO Council continues to play a role in evaluating the first round and proposing policy recommendations, if necessary, for changes to subsequent rounds. A **discussion group** was created to begin the evaluation process and possibly identify areas for future GNSO policy development. Upon considering the deliverables of the discussion group, the GNSO Council requested a Preliminary Issue Report to be delivered by the ICANN organization. After incorporating public comment on its Preliminary Issue Report, staff prepared and delivered the Final Issue Report. Subsequently, the GNSO Council initiated the PDP and adopted the WG charter.

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Steve Chan, Julie Hedlund, Emily Barabas

Policy Development Process: Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All Generic Top-Level Domains

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN61 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG) will be holding four open meetings on: Saturday, 10 March (two 90-minute sessions); Sunday, 11 March (90 minutes); Thursday 15 March (105 minutes). Please check the ICANN61 meeting schedule for actual times and meeting locations. All community members are welcome to attend all the WG's open sessions. The WG will be continuing its review of the Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) covered by Phase One of this two-phased PDP.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This PDP is being conducted in two phases. Phase One covers all the RPMs applicable to generic top-level domains (gTLDs) launched under the 2012 New gTLD Program. These RPMs are: the Trademark Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedure (TM-PDDRP), the Trademark Clearinghouse (TMCH), the Sunrise and Trademark Claims services that are offered through the TMCH, and the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) dispute resolution procedure. Phase Two will focus on reviewing the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP), which has been an ICANN Consensus Policy since 1999. The WG is currently in Phase One and hopes to complete this stage of work by early 2019.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Community feedback on the RPMs developed for the 2012 New gTLD Program indicated a need to review their application and scope, especially if there is to be a further expansion of the gTLD space. The 2012 New gTLD Program RPMs are new mechanisms that have now been in use for several years. The UDRP is a long-standing Consensus Policy that has never undergone any substantial review. By the conclusion of both phases of this PDP, the WG is expected to have considered the overarching issue as to whether all the RPMs collectively fulfill the purposes for which they were created, or whether additional policy recommendations are needed. The outcomes of this PDP are also intended to create a coherent and uniform mechanism for future reviews of all RPMs.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council initiated the PDP on 18 February 2016 and chartered the WG in March 2016. The WG began its Phase One work with reviewing the TM-PDDRP, which was completed in late 2016. The WG has largely completed an initial review of the structure and scope of the TMCH, and has just launched an extensive data collection exercise, involving professionally-designed surveys of targeted respondent groups, to obtain quantitative and anecdotal evidence that can assist with its review of the Sunrise and Trademark Claims services that are offered through the TMCH. While this data gathering effort is ongoing, the WG has commenced its review of the URS dispute resolution procedure.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The survey results are anticipated to be available in the third quarter of 2018, which will permit the WG to complete its review of the Sunrise and Trademark Claims. The WG is currently evaluating whether additional data needs to be gathered for the URS review.

The WG is aiming to complete Phase One of this PDP in early 2019, at which point it will publish a Preliminary Report on its recommendations regarding these RPMs for public comment. In this regard, the WG will continue to coordinate its timelines and work with other related efforts, such as the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP, and the Competition, Consumer Choice, and Consumer Trust Review.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

The WG is open to all. You may join as either a Member (with full posting rights to the mailing list and the ability to participate in all WG meetings) or as an Observer (with read-only status for the mailing list). Please email the GNSO Secretariat at **gnso-secs@ICANN.org** if you wish to join the group.

MORE INFORMATION

- PDP Webpage: **gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/rpm**
- WG Workspace: **community.icann.org/x/wCWAAw**
- WG Charter: **www.gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/rpm-charter-15mar16-en.pdf**
- Final Issue Report: **https://go.icann.org/2BvPivt**

BACKGROUND

In October 2011, prior to the launch of the 2012 New gTLD Program, ICANN organization published a Final Issue Report on the current state of the UDRP. The recommended course of action at the time was for the GNSO Council to hold off from initiating a PDP until after the new URS had been in operation for at least 18 months. The GNSO Council followed this recommended course of action and staff published a new Preliminary Issue Report in September 2015 that covered all existing RPMs. The Final Issue Report that led to this current PDP was published in January 2016, and outlined the two-phased approach that was eventually adopted by the GNSO Council.

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Mary Wong, Berry Cobb, Julie Hedlund, Ariel Liang

Policy Development Process: International Governmental Organization-International Non-Governmental Organization Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This PDP was initiated in June 2014 by the GNSO Council to consider whether existing curative rights mechanisms at the second level of the domain name system (DNS), namely, the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) and the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) dispute resolution procedure, should be modified to address the needs of International Governmental Organizations (IGOs) and International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs). IGOs and INGOs have highlighted certain difficulties they face in using these mechanisms to protect their names and acronyms.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Protecting the names and acronyms of IGOs and INGOs at the top-level and second-level of the DNS has been a long-standing issue over the course of the New gTLD Program. The GNSO had previously recommended certain protective measures to the ICANN Board. However, those recommendations did not address the topic as to whether existing domain name dispute resolution procedures provided adequate protection for IGO and INGO names and acronyms. The GNSO Council subsequently tasked this WG to consider: (1) whether the UDRP and URS should be amended to resolve the problems faced by IGOs and/or INGOs and if so, in what way; or (2) if a separate, narrowly tailored dispute resolution procedure should be developed to apply only to IGOs and/or INGOs.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The WG's preliminary recommendations, as published for public comment in January 2017, essentially recommended that no changes be made to either the UDRP or URS and that no specific new process be developed for IGOs. The WG also developed some specific recommendations for IGOs, including the basis upon which an IGO may demonstrate standing to file a complaint under the UDRP and URS, as well as the issue of IGO jurisdictional immunity. Community feedback was received during the public comment period on all of the WG's preliminary recommendations. The WG has completed its review of all public comments received, including input from the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), a number of IGOs, and the broader ICANN community. As a result, the WG has modified some of its preliminary recommendations. It is currently considering whether it will be possible to reach consensus on various policy options on the remaining issue under consideration. The issue concerns the situation where a losing registrant files a judicial proceeding against an IGO who may wish to claim jurisdictional immunity in that court.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The WG is in the concluding phases of its work and hopes to complete its Final Report after ICANN61.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

The open community session at ICANN61 is an excellent opportunity to provide input to the WG concerning the remaining issue under discussion. While it is in a late stage in its work, the WG continues to be open to anyone. Please contact the GNSO Secretariat at **gnso-secs@ICANN.org** to be added to the mailing list.

MORE INFORMATION

- WG Initial Report containing preliminary recommendations: **go.icann.org/2o1**
- Public Comment of the WG Initial Report: **https://go.icann.org/2C0tY2u**
- PDP Webpage: **gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/igo-ingo-crp**
- WG Workspace: **community.icann.org/x/37rhAg**
- WG Charter: **gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/igo-ingo-crp-access-charter-24jun14**

BACKGROUND

IGOs and INGOs face certain challenges in fully using the UDRP and URS for a number of reasons. IGOs see the Mutual Jurisdiction requirement for both processes as jeopardizing their jurisdictional immunity status. For both IGOs and INGOs, the fact that the UDRP and URS were designed as protective mechanisms for trademark owners means that they cannot use these procedures unless they also own trademarks in their names and/or acronyms. Both types of organizations are also concerned about the cost involved in using these procedures, which means diverting resources and funds from their primary missions. The GAC has issued advice on the topic which the WG continues to take into account in its deliberations.

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Mary Wong, Steve Chan

Policy Amendment Process: Protections for Certain Red Cross Names in All Generic Top-Level Domains

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN61 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

In May 2017, the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council voted to initiate the GNSO's documented process to consider amendments to previously completed policy development process (PDP) recommendations, prior to their adoption by the ICANN Board. These recommendations relate to appropriate protections for the names of the National Societies of the Red Cross and the International Red Cross Movement. The original PDP Working Group (WG), which completed its work in November 2013, has been reconvened for this purpose. While the PDP WG will not be meeting at ICANN61, the GNSO Council is expected to receive an update on the status of the work.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This section of the Policy Briefing should be read together with the following section entitled "Implementation Status: Protection of International Governmental Organization (IGO)-International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Identifiers in All Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) Policy Recommendations."

The Protection of IGO-INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs PDP was completed in November 2013. Although the GNSO Council accepted all the PDP WG recommendations, the ICANN Board to date has approved only those recommendations that are consistent with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) advice received on the subject. The remaining recommendations are still under Board consideration. These were the subject of a facilitated dialogue between the GAC and the GNSO at ICANN58 as part of an ongoing process to attempt to reconcile the GAC advice and the GNSO PDP recommendations.

Following that facilitated discussion, the ICANN Board requested that the GNSO Council consider initiating the GNSO policy amendment process in accordance with the GNSO's procedures. The GNSO Council agreed to launch the policy amendment process and reconvene the original PDP WG. The aim is to see if a finite, limited list of specific names of 190 Red Cross National Societies as well as a limited, defined set of variants for these names can be developed.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The ICANN Bylaws contain provisions that outline specific steps to be taken by the Board in cases where it disagrees with either GAC advice or GNSO PDP recommendations. In this case, the Board elected not to trigger either of these processes when it only adopted those GNSO PDP recommendations that were consistent with GAC advice in April 2014 and requested additional time to consider the remaining, inconsistent recommendations.

The GNSO Council launched the PDP on the Protection of IGO-INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs in November 2012. The aim is to consider what the appropriate form and scope of protections would be at both the top-level and second-level of the Domain Name System (DNS), for the Red Cross, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and other IGOs and INGOs. All these organizations perform important public interest or humanitarian work. Cybersquatting and related abuse of domain names identical or confusingly similar to their names and acronyms could significantly impact their missions and resources. The GNSO Council approved and the Board adopted part of the PDP outcomes, which included consensus recommendations that a limited list of Red Cross, IOC, IGO, and INGO identifiers be reserved. For the Red Cross, these are "Red Cross," "Red Crescent," "Red Crystal," and "Red Lion and Sun" at the top-level and second-level. For IGOs, only their full organizational names will be reserved at the second-level. The appropriate DNS protections for many of the other identifiers associated with the Red Cross and IGOs – i.e., Red Cross National Society names, the names and acronyms of the International Red Cross Movement, and IGO acronyms – have yet to be finalized. The facilitated dialogue that took place between representatives of the GAC and the GNSO at ICANN58 was an attempt to reconcile the remaining inconsistencies between GAC advice and the GNSO PDP recommendations.

The GNSO Council's vote in May 2017 initiated the policy amendment process only for specific names associated with the Red Cross. Discussion over IGO acronyms is ongoing.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The reconvened PDP WG has reached preliminary agreement to recommend that a specific, finite set of names be withheld from registration at the second-level of the DNS. The PDP WG is currently discussing what specific, limited variants of those names should also be included.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

It is important to note that the GNSO's policy amendment process must take place before the Board acts on the PDP recommendations. The GNSO Council's policy amendment process mandates that the proposed amendment be posted for public comment. Consequently, the GNSO Council will consider whether to approve the amendment. The amendment will be considered approved only if a supermajority of the GNSO Council votes to approve. The Board will then be expected to act in accordance with the ICANN Bylaws on the final results of this reconciliation process.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

You may follow the progress of the discussions by reviewing the background information on this project, observing the discussions, and looking out for any public comment forums to be launched as part of the final reconciliation process.

MORE INFORMATION

- Protection of IGO-INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs PDP Webpage: **gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/igo-ingo**
- Protection of IGO-INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs PDP WG Workspace: **community.icann.org/x/2YJEAg**
- ICANN Board resolution of April 2014 adopting the PDP recommendations consistent with GAC advice and requesting more time for the remaining recommendations: **icann.org/en/groups/board/resolutions-30apr14**
- GAC webpage listing GAC Communiqué advice relating to IGO protections: **gacweb.icann.org/display/GACADV/IGO**
- Documents, meetings, and mailing list for GAC-GNSO facilitated dialogue: **community.icann.org/x/eoPRAw**
- ICANN Board resolution at ICANN58 requesting that the GNSO Council consider amending the adopted PDP recommendations pertaining to Red Cross names: **www.icann.org/resources/board/resolutions-2017-03-16**
- GNSO PDP Manual: **gnso.icann.org/en/council/manual-01sep16**
- GNSO Council resolution initiating the policy amendment process: **gnso.icann.org/en/council/resolutions-20170503-071**

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Mary Wong, Berry Cobb

Implementation Status: Protection of International Governmental Organization-International Non-Governmental Organization Identifiers in All Generic Top-Level Domains Policy Recommendations

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN61 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) does not plan to meet at ICANN61.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This section of the Policy Briefing should be read together with the previous section entitled "Policy Amendment Process: Protections for Certain Red Cross Names in All Generic Top-Level Domains".

The Policy Development Process (PDP) on the Protection of International Governmental Organization (IGO)-International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Identifiers in All Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) was initiated to develop policy recommendations for the provision of protection for identifiers (e.g., names or acronyms) of certain IGOs and INGOs. These include the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement (RCRC), and the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The PDP Working Group (WG) completed its work in November 2013 and all of its consensus recommendations were **approved** by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council. In April 2014, the ICANN Board **adopted** the PDP recommendations that were "not inconsistent" with GAC advice received on the topic, and requested more time to consider the remaining, inconsistent recommendations. The adopted recommendations relate to protection at the top and second level for specific RCRC, IOC, and IGO full names (with an Exception Procedure to be designed for the affected organizations), and a 90-days Claims Notification process at the second level for certain INGO full names.

This project covers only the implementation status of the recommendations that were adopted by the ICANN Board in April 2014. It is not concerned with the ongoing policy amendment process for the remaining, inconsistent recommendations (e.g., IGO acronyms and remaining names of the RCRC) or the deliberations of the ongoing PDP Working Group (WG) on IGO-INGO Curative Rights Protections.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Throughout the development of the 2012 New gTLD program, issues related to whether certain international organizations (e.g., IGOs, the RCRC, and the IOC) should receive special protection for their names at the top and second level in the Domain Name System have been raised. In the PDP launched by the GNSO Council, the scope of organizations was expanded to also consider INGOs (other than the RCRC and IOC). All these organizations perform important public interest or humanitarian work. They have reported that cyber-squatting and related abuse of domain names identical or confusingly similar to their names and acronyms could significantly impact their missions and resources.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

On 16 January 2018, the implementation of the Consensus Policy for the Protection of Certain Specific IGO and INGO Identifiers for All gTLDs was published. Contracted parties will have until 1 August 2018 to complete implementation of the new requirements for certain specific names of IGOs, the IOC, and the RCRC. For INGOs, the implementation period will be 12 months from the release of the INGO Claims Systems Specification which is currently under development by the ICANN org.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

In coordination with the IRT, the Global Domains Division (GDD) is working with the affected parties to implement the policy by the policy effective dates.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

If you wish to join the IRT, contact the GNSO Secretariat at **gnso-secs@icann.org**.

MORE INFORMATION

- Announcement of the Implementation of the Consensus Policy: **icann.org/news**
- Published Policy: **icann.org/resources/pages/igo-ingo-protection-policy-2018**
- Public comment proceeding on the Proposed Implementation of GNSO Consensus Policy Recommendations for the Protection of IGO&INGO Identifier in All gTLDs: **icann.org/public-comments/igo-ingo-protection-2017-05-17-en**
- PDP Webpage: **http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/igo-ingo**
- IRT Webpage: **https://community.icann.org/x/RJFCAw**

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Dennis Chang (GDD)

Implementation Status: Thick WHOIS Policy Recommendations

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

ICANN specifies WHOIS service requirements through Registry Agreements (RAs) and the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) for the generic top-level domain (gTLD) registries. Registries have historically satisfied their WHOIS obligations under two different models. The two models are often characterized as "thin" and "thick" WHOIS registries. This distinction is based on how two distinct sets of data are maintained.

In a thin registration model, the registry only collects the information associated with the domain name from the registrar. The registry in turn publishes that information along with maintaining certain status information at the registry level. Registrars maintain data associated with the registrant of the domain and provide it via their own WHOIS services, as required by Section 3.3 of the RAA for those domains they sponsor. In a thick registration model, the registry collects both sets of data (domain name and registrant) from the registrar and in turn publishes that data via WHOIS.

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council initiated a Policy Development Process (PDP) to consider a possible requirement of "thick" WHOIS for all gTLDs. The PDP WG finalized its report and submitted it to the GNSO Council on 21 October 2013. The GNSO PDP WG recommends all gTLD registries to provide thick WHOIS services with a consistent labeling and display (CL&D). It would improve stability of and access to WHOIS data, as well as potentially reduce acquisition and processing cost for consumers of WHOIS data. During its meeting on 31 October 2013, the GNSO Council unanimously adopted the recommendation to require thick WHOIS for all gTLD registries. Following the public comment forum and the notification of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), the ICANN Board considered the recommendations and **adopted** these during its meeting on 7 February 2014.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The CL&D of the Registration Data Directory Service (RDDS) Output for All gTLDs policy has completed implementation by the policy effective date of 1 August 2017.

Verisign, the registry operator for .COM and .NET, has proposed changes to its Registry-Registrar Agreement (RRA) to accept Thick WHOIS data. However, Verisign and the Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) hit an impasse when they could not agree on the RRA proposed by Verisign. During its meeting on 29 October 2017, the ICANN Board adopted a **resolution** to defer enforcement of the policy. This effectively allows an additional 180 days for the implementation before enforcement takes effect for the Thin to Thick Transition policy.

MORE INFORMATION

- PDP Webpage: **gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/thick-whois**

- IRT Workspace: **community.icann.org/x/t77hAg**

- Public Comment period on CL&D Policy Proposal: **icann.org/public-comments/ rdds-output-2015-12-03**

- Public Comment proceeding on Transition from thin to thick for .COM, .NET and .JOBS: **icann.org/public-comments/proposed-implementation-gnso-thick- rdds-whois-transition-2016-10-26**

- Thick WHOIS Transition Policy for .COM, .NET and .JOBS: **icann.org/resources/ pages/thick-whois-transition-policy-2017-02-01**

- Registry Registration Data Directory Services CL& D Policy: **icann.org/resources/ pages/rdds-labeling-policy-2017-02-01**

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Dennis Chang (GDD)

Implementation Status: Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues Policy Recommendations

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN61 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) will have a formal working meeting at ICANN61 if the draft Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) and related materials have not yet been posted for public comment.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

A privacy service allows domain name registration in the registrant's name, but all other contact details displayed in the publicly-accessible Registration Data Directory Service (RDDS) are those given by the privacy service provider, not by the registrant. A proxy service allows the registered name holder to license the use of the domain to a customer who actually uses the domain; the contact information displayed in the RDDS system is that of the proxy service provider.

The ICANN org is implementing a new Privacy and Proxy Service Provider Accreditation Program, pursuant to policy recommendations that were developed by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG), adopted by the GNSO Council in January 2016, and adopted by the ICANN Board in August 2016.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The 2013 RAA contains a temporary specification that governs registrars' obligations in respect of privacy and proxy services. This specification will expire on 1 July 2019 or when ICANN implements a privacy and proxy accreditation program, whichever first occurs.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

An IRT of more than 40 community members has been formed under the direction of ICANN's Global Domains Division (GDD). The IRT commenced its meetings in October 2016. As of January 2018, the IRT is currently reviewing the draft accreditation agreement and other program materials in preparation for the **public comment** phase.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The IRT meets weekly. The IRT is currently discussing issues surrounding the draft Accreditation Agreement, as well as the accreditation and de-accreditation processes.

Based on the IRT's current pace, it is expected that the public comment period will be launched before ICANN61. However, unexpected developments could impact the timeline. The project timeline will be revisited and updated quarterly on the ICANN.org **implementation status webpage**.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

If you are a community member with experience and interest in this topic, and wish to join the IRT, send an email indicating your interest to the GNSO Secretariat at **gnso-secs@ICANN.org**. Broad community input is encouraged during the public comment phase.

MORE INFORMATION

- PDP Final Report: **gnso.icann.org/en/issues/raa/ppsai-final-07dec15**
- PDP Webpage: **gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/ppsa**
- IRT Workspace: **community.icann.org/x/VA2sAw**

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Amy Bivins (GDD)

Implementation Status: Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information Recommendations

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN61 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) will not meet during ICANN61. However, it will continue holding its teleconferences via Adobe Connect.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The continued internationalization of the domain name system (DNS) means registrations from registrants unfamiliar with Latin script are increasing. In October 2012 the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council requested an Issue Report to address whether it is desirable to translate or transliterate[1] contact information[2] into one common language or script. In December 2013, the GNSO Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information (T/T) Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG) was formed to provide an answer to this question. The WG was also tasked with determining who would carry the burden if mandatory translation or transliteration of contact information were recommended.

In its Final Report, the PDP WG did not recommend mandating the translation or transliteration of contact information data. Instead, the WG recommended that registrants submit contact data in any language and script supported by their registrar, ideally the registrant's native one. The WG expressed that data submitted in a script and language native to the registrant is most likely to be accurate and that the costs of translating and/or transliterating all contact information data would be disproportionate to any potential benefits.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT AND EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The ICANN Board **adopted** the recommendations of the PDP Working Group in September 2015.

In late September 2017, the ICANN org prepared a **draft policy document** for the IRT's review. This document is based on the entirety of the IRT's input received during the course of the implementation.

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[1] 'Translation' is defined as the translation of a text into another language whereas 'transliteration' is the writing of a word using the closest corresponding letters of a different alphabet.

[2] Contact information' is a subset of Domain Name Registration Data and thus the information that enables someone using a Domain Name Registration Data Directory Service (such as WHOIS) to contact the domain name registration holder.

The IRT is currently reviewing the document and will discuss it during their next teleconferences. The implementation's projected effective date is to be determined. There are a number of technical, logistical, and coordination issues that need to be considered before deciding on a policy effective date. Issues include the roll-out of the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) and work within the Next-Generation Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Registration Directory Services (RDS) to replace WHOIS PDP.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

The IRT is composed of members of the PDP Working Group. Newcomers and interested parties are welcome to join as observers. Send an email indicating your interest to the GNSO Secretariat at **gnso-secs@ICANN.org**.

MORE INFORMATION

- PDP WG Final Report: **goo.gl/MgZ42S**

- ICANN Board adopting the recommendations contained in the PDP WG Final Report: **icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2015-09-28**

- IRT Workspace: **community.icann.org/x/0SeOAw**

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Brian Aitchison (Global Domains Division)

Implementation Status: Generic Names Supporting Organization Review Working Group

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN61 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Working Group (WG) is set to update the GNSO Council at its meeting on Wednesday, 14 March, concerning its progress on the Implementation Plan.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council adopted the **charter** of the GNSO Review Working Group during its meeting on 21 July 2016. This WG developed an Implementation Plan for the **GNSO Review recommendations**. On 15 December 2016, the GNSO Council **approved** the plan and on 3 February 2017, the ICANN Board **adopted** it.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The independent examiner of the GNSO Review assessed which improvements resulting from the 2008 Review have been implemented and whether they successfully addressed the concerns that led to the review. The independent examiner also evaluated whether the GNSO, as it is currently constituted, can respond to its changing environment.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The GNSO Review WG developed an Implementation Plan. It contains a projected timeline for the implementation, definition of desired outcomes, and a way to measure progress toward the desired outcome for the 34 recommendations in the **GNSO Review Final Report**. This Implementation Plan was approved by the GNSO Council and subsequently by the ICANN Board. Following the approval, the WG is now executing and overseeing the implementation of the GNSO Review recommendations.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The WG has completed implementation of the **Phase 1 recommendations**, which consist of items identified as already underway. It has also completed the implementation of **Phase 2 recommendations**, which are of high priority. The WG is in the process of discussing and approving the implementation of the **Phase 3 recommendations**. The WG provided a report on the implementation progress to the Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC) of the ICANN Board of Directors, and to the GNSO Council at ICANN60. It will also provide a report to the GNSO Council at ICANN61. For the current status see the **wiki workspace**.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

This WG is open to all participants. If you are interested in joining this effort, please email **gnso-secs@ICANN.org**.

MORE INFORMATION

- GNSO Review Implementation Plan: **goo.gl/HYs47B**
- GNSO Review Final Report: **goo.gl/5nu9Wd**
- WG Webpage: **gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/other/review/2014**
- WG Workspace: **community.icann.org/x/ZhmsAw**
- WG Charter: **community.icann.org/x/pRmsAw**

BACKGROUND

On 14 April 2016 the GNSO Council approved a **motion** to adopt the **GNSO Review Recommendations Feasibility and Prioritization Analysis**. Based on the review of the GNSO Analysis, the ICANN Board of Directors **adopted** the **GNSO Review recommendations** on 25 June 2016. In its resolution, the ICANN Board requested that the GNSO Council convene a group to oversee the implementation of the recommendations. The Board further requested that an Implementation Plan be submitted to the Board no later than six months after the adoption of the Board's resolution. The GNSO Review WG was formed to develop the Implementation Plan. The GNSO Council approved it in December 2016 and the ICANN Board adopted it in February 2017. In particular, the Board supports the three-phased prioritization approach laid out in the Implementation Plan and indicated it would welcome more implementation details for Phase 2 and 3 regarding the high, medium, and low priority recommendations. The Board directs the GNSO Review WG to provide updates to its OEC every six months, detailing progress and measurability. The Board will also consider any budgetary implementations of the GNSO review implementation as part of the then-applicable annual budgeting process.

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Emily Barabas, Julie Hedlund, and Marika Konings

Cross-Community Working Group: New Generic Top-Level Domains Auction Proceeds

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN61 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Cross Community Working Group (CCWG) has scheduled face-to-face meeting time on Sunday, 10 March from 17:00-18:30 local time. In addition, the CCWG is planning to engage with the community on Thursday, 15 March from 8:30-10:15. The CCWG is expected to continue its deliberations per its **work plan**.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Program established auctions as a last resort to resolve the competition sets between identical or similar terms (strings) for new gTLDs – an issue known as string contention. Ninety percent of contention sets scheduled for auction have been resolved through other means before reaching an auction conducted by Power Auctions LLC, ICANN's authorized auction service provider. However, it was recognized from the outset that significant funds could accrue as a result of several successful auctions. The proceeds derived from such auctions have been reserved and earmarked within ICANN until such time as the ICANN Board authorizes a plan for the appropriate use of the funds. These proceeds are to be considered as an exceptional, one-time source of revenue.

All ICANN Supporting Organizations (SOs) and Advisory Committees (ACs) have chartered a CCWG to propose the mechanism to allocate the new gTLD Auction Proceeds. Following approval by the Chartering Organizations, the CCWG will submit its proposal(s) to the ICANN Board for consideration.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The new gTLD Auction Proceeds, derived from these last resort auctions, are distinct and ring-fenced funds. The Auction Proceeds are a single revenue source derived from all new gTLD Auction Proceeds round 1. The proceeds, net of direct auction costs, are fully segregated in separate bank and investment accounts. The proceeds are invested conservatively with any interest accruing to the proceeds. Since June 2014, 17 contention sets have been resolved via ICANN auctions. The total net proceeds to date are $233.5 million USD. Details of the proceeds can be found **here**. As of 10 February 2018, nine contention sets remain to be resolved. It is important to keep in mind that approximately 90 percent of contention sets scheduled for auction are resolved prior to the auction. The total amount of funding resulting from auctions will not be known until all relevant applications have resolved contention.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The CCWG commenced its deliberations at the end of January 2017. It has 26 members appointed by the different Chartering Organizations, 46 participants, and 36 observers. The CCWG is tasked with developing a proposal(s) on the mechanism that should be developed to allocate the new gTLD Auction Proceeds. As part of this proposal, the CCWG is also expected to consider the scope of fund allocation and due diligence requirements that preserve ICANN's tax status, as well as related matters such as potential or actual conflicts of interest. The CCWG will NOT make any recommendations or determinations with regard to specific funding decisions (i.e., which specific organizations or projects are to be funded or not).

Furthermore, the CCWG deliberated on its approach for dealing with the charter questions and the proposed timeline. It agreed to the following phases:

1. Initial run-through of all charter questions to assess initial responses, identify possible gating questions, and determine the potential order in which questions need to be dealt with;
2. Address any charter questions that have been identified as requiring a further detailed response before commencing the next phase;
3. Compile a list of possible mechanisms that could be considered by the CCWG;
4. Determine which mechanism(s) demonstrates most potential to meet CCWG expectations and conforms with legal and fiduciary constraints;
5. Answer charter questions, as organized per Phase 1, for mechanism(s) that demonstrate the most potential;
6. Publish Initial Report for public comment following consensus on mechanism and responses to charter questions that meet legal, fiduciary, and audit constraints.

To date, it has completed work on Phases 1 and Phase 2. Work products coming out of these phases, including the proposed objectives for fund allocation and examples of possible projects, were **shared** with the ICANN Board liaisons for feedback. The CCWG is in the process of reviewing the **feedback** in order to determine whether to update its work products.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

As part of Phase 3, the CCWG has identified a number of external experts and a set of questions for these external experts to address. This effort is expected to help the CCWG determine which mechanism(s) demonstrates the most potential to meet CCWG expectations while conforming with legal and fiduciary constraints (see **here** for details). The possible mechanisms currently being contemplated are:

- Creation of a new ICANN Proceeds Allocation Department as part of ICANN org
- Creation of a new ICANN Proceeds Allocation Department as part of ICANN org, which would work in collaboration with an existing charitable organization(s)
- Creation of a new structure (e.g. ICANN foundation)
- Usage of established entity/entities (e.g. foundation or fund). ICANN would organize the oversight of processes to ensure mission and fiduciary duties are met.

The CCWG is expected to review and analyze expert input in detail before making a determination on which mechanism(s) should be further explored by considering all pertinent charter questions.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Anyone interested can join this effort as a participant or observer. Please complete the **registration form** or email the GNSO Secretariat at **gnso-secs@ICANN.org**.

MORE INFORMATION

- New gTLD Auction Proceeds CCWG Workspace, including Charter, background documents and information: **community.icann.org/x/yJXDAw**
- CCWG Charter Question templates: **community.icann.org/Charter**
- CCWG Work Plan: **community.icann.org/Work+Plan**

BACKGROUND

Following a number of sessions on this topic during the ICANN53 in Buenos Aires (see **https://buenosaires53.icann.org/en/schedule/mon-soac-high-interest** and **https://buenosaires53.icann.org/en/schedule/wed-cwg-new-gtld-auction**), a **discussion paper** was published in September 2015 to solicit further community input on this topic, as well as the proposal to proceed with a CCWG on this topic. The feedback received confirmed the support for moving forward with a CCWG. James Bladel, the GNSO Chair at the time, reached out to all the ICANN SOs and ACs to ask for volunteers to participate in a Drafting Team (DT) to develop a charter for a CCWG on this topic. All ICANN SOs and ACs, apart from the Country Code Supporting Organization (ccNSO), responded to this request and have put forward volunteers to participate in the DT. The DT commenced its deliberations on Tuesday, 23 February 2016. A draft charter for community discussion was published in advance of ICANN56 and discussed during the **cross-community session** held at ICANN56. Following ICANN56, the DT **reviewed all the input received** and updated the proposed charter accordingly. On 13 September 2016, **this proposed charter** was shared with all ICANN SOs and ACs with the request to review it and identify pertinent issues that would prevent adoption of the charter, if any. Subsequently, a webinar was held on 13 October 2016 to allow for additional time and information to undertake this review. The final proposed charter was submitted to all ICANN SOs and ACs on 17 October 2016, and subsequently each ICANN SO and AC confirmed the adoption of the charter. Subsequently, a **call for volunteers** was launched and the CCWG was chartered by all ICANN SOs and ACs to propose the mechanism to allocate the new gTLD Auction Proceeds. The Chartering Organizations are, namely, the Address Supporting Organization (ASO), the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), the ccNSO, the GNSO, the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC), and the Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC). Following approval by the Chartering Organizations, the CCWG will submit its proposal(s) to the ICANN Board for consideration.

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Marika Konings, Joke Braeken (ccNSO)

GNSO Schedule for ICANN61 San Juan   10 Mar

Please confirm against the **final schedule**, as changes may occur. For remote participation details, please check **this wiki page** created by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Support Team. Live audio streaming, recording, and transcripts will become available after meetings. Unless specified with the symbol [c], sessions published in this table are open to all.

DAY 1: SATURDAY

TIME	MEETING	ROOM
8:30-9:00	Non-Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC) Membership Affairs	103-A
8:30-9:30	Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) with GNSO Appointed ICANN Board Members [c]	103-B
8:30-10:15	Next-Generation Registration Directory Service (RDS) to Replace WHOIS Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG)	104
9:00-10:15	NCUC ExCom	103-A
9:00-10:15	Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency (NPOC) Planning Meeting [c]	209-BC
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	RDS PDP WG	104
10:30-12:00	NCUC and NPOC Joint Outreach - Civil Society Organizations Roundtable	103-A
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
12:15-15:00	New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) PDP WG	104
12:15-13:15	Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC) Discussion Group [c]	103-A
12:15-13:15	Commercial Business Users Constituency (BC) ExCom Meeting [c]	103-B
13:30-15:00	IPC Meeting – General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) & WHOIS [c]	103-A
13:30-15:00	NCUC Outreach Event	208-BC
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-16:45	Review of all Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs PDP WG	104
15:15-16:45	NCUC and At-Large Outreach Joint Session	208-BC
16:45-17:00	Transfer Break	
17:00-18:30	RPMs PDP WG	104
17:00-18:30	Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG) In-Reach Event	208-BC

GNSO Schedule for ICANN61 San Juan 11 Mar

Please confirm against the **final schedule**, as changes may occur. For remote participation details, please check **this wiki page** created by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Support Team. Live audio streaming, recording, and transcripts will become available after meetings. Unless specified with the symbol [c], sessions published in this table are open to all.

DAY 2: SUNDAY

TIME	MEETING	ROOM
8:30-10:00	Registry Stakeholder Group (RySG) Registry Service Evaluation Process (RSEP) Discussion Group with Staff [c]	103-B
8:30-10:15	NCUC Policy Course [c]	103-A
9:00-10:15	GNSO Working Session	104
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	GNSO Working Session	104
10:30-12:00	RySG Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) Pilot Meeting	103-B
10:30-12:00	NPOC ExCom Meeting [c]	209-BC
10:30-12:00	NCUC Policy Course [c]	103-A
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
12:00-13:00	GNSO Council Meeting with the ICANN Board	104
12:00-15:00	NCUC Policy Course [c]	103-A
13:30-15:00	GNSO Working Session	104
13:30-15:00	RySG Brand Registry Group (BRG) Meeting [c]	103-B
13:30-15:00	Contracted Party House (CPH) GDPR Discussion Group [c]	208-BC
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-16:45	GNSO Meeting with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)	Ballroom B
15:15-16:45	RySG Geo TLD Group Planning Meeting	104
15:15-16:45	Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) Compliance Sub-Group Meeting	103-B
15:15-16:45	Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency (ISPCP) Meeting [c]	103-A

DAY 2: SUNDAY

TIME	MEETING	ROOM
16:45-17:00	Transfer Break	
17:00-18:30	Cross Community Working Group on New gTLD Auction Proceeds (CCWG-Auction Proceeds)	104
17:00-18:30	RySG Domain Name Association (DNA) Board Meeting [c]	103-B
17:00-18:30	RPMs PDP WG	208-BC
17:00-18:30	NCSG Policy Committee Meeting	103-A
17:00-18:30	CSG Meeting [c]	101-B
17:00-18:30	CPH Meeting with ICANN Senior Staff [c]	101-A

GNSO Schedule for ICANN61 San Juan   12 Mar

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DAY 3: MONDAY

TIME	MEETING	ROOM
8:30-9:00	NCUC Onboarding	103-A
9:00-10:10	Opening Ceremony	Ballroom A
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	Cross-Community Session – GDPR: WHOIS Compliance Models	Ballroom A
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
12:00-13:30	NCUC Policy Course Wrap Up [c]	103-A
12:15-13:15	CPH Tech Ops	101-A
12:15-13:30	GNSO and Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Joint Council Meeting	104
13:30-15:00	Cross-Community Session – A Walk in the Shoes of a New gTLD Registry Operator	Ballroom A
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-17:00	Cross Community Session – Name Collisions	Ballroom A
16:45-17:00	Transfer Break	
17:00-18:30	Public Forum 1	Ballroom A
19:00-21:00	Gala Night	Offsite

GNSO Schedule for ICANN61 San Juan   13 Mar

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DAY 4: TUESDAY

TIME	MEETING	ROOM
8:30-9:00	RySG ExCom Meeting (Telephone Only) [c]	208-BC
8:30-9:30	NCSG Meeting with the ICANN Board	Ballroom A
9:00-10:15	IPC Meeting [c]	103-B
9:00-10:15	BC Meeting [c]	103-A
9:00-10:15	RySG Membership Meeting	208-BC
9:00-10:15	RrSG Membership Meeting	104
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	NCUC Day	103-B
10:30-12:00	CSG Meeting	103-A
10:30-12:00	RySG Membership Meeting	208-BC
10:30-12:00	RrSG Membership Meeting	104
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
12:00-14:00	RySG Membership Meeting	208-BC
12:00-14:00	RrSG Membership Meeting	104
13:30-15:00	CSG Meeting with the ICANN Board	Ballroom A
13:30-15:00	NCUC Day	103-B
14:00-15:00	CPH Membership Meeting	104
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-16:45	CPH Meeting with the ICANN Board	Ballroom A
15:15-16:45	BC Meeting	103-A
15:15-16:45	IPC Meeting	208-BC

DAY 4: TUESDAY

TIME	MEETING	ROOM
15:15-16:45	NPOC Day	104
15:15-16:45	ISPCP Meeting	208-A
16:45-17:00	Transfer Break	
17:00-18:30	BC Meeting	103-A
17:00-18:30	IPC Meeting	208-BC
17:00-18:30	NCSG Meeting	104
17:00-18:30	ISPCP Meeting	208-A
18:30-20:00	RrSG & Public Safety Working Group (PSWG) Social Event [c]	Terrasse A
18:30-20:00	GNSO Council Informal Session [c]	104

GNSO Schedule for ICANN61 San Juan   14 Mar

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DAY 5: WEDNESDAY

TIME	MEETING	ROOM
8:30-10:15	SubPro PDP Work Track (WT) 5	104
8:30-10:15	RySG DNA Member Breakfast [c]	103-A
8:30-10:15	Cross Community Working Party – ICANN & Human Rights	103-B
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	Cross-Community Session – Open Data at ICANN: Developing Avenues Forward for Transparency	Ballroom A
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
12:15-13:15	CPH ExCom [c]	103-A
13:00-15:00	GNSO Council Meeting	104
13:30-15:00	RySG DNA Marketing Committee	103-A
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break	
15:15-16:45	CPH & CSG Membership Meeting	104
15:15-16:45	RySG DNA Healthy Domains Initiative (HDI)	103-A
15:15-16:45	RDS PDP WG	103-B
16:45-17:00	Transfer Break	
17:00-18:30	RDS PDP WG	103-B
17:00-18:30	RySG Geo TLDs Group Sharing	104
17:00-18:30	International Governmental Organizations (IGO) - International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGO) Protection Discussion	103-A

GNSO Schedule for ICANN61 San Juan   15 Mar

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DAY 6: THURSDAY

TIME	MEETING	ROOM
8:30-10:15	CCWG-Auction Proceeds Update	104
8:30-10:15	RPMs PDP WG	103-A
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:00	GNSO Council Wrap Up Session	104
10:30-12:00	RySG BRG Meeting	103-A
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break	
12:15-13:15	ICANN62 Supporting Organization (SO) / Advisory Committee (AC) Scheduling Kick-Off	101-A
13:30-15:00	RySG DNA Panel on Domain Names Marketplace	104
13:30-16:45	Public Form 2	Ballroom A
16:45-17:00	Transfer Break	
17:00-18:00	ICANN Public Board Meeting	Ballroom A
17:00-18:30	RySG Registry Service Provider (RSP) Discussion Group [c]	104
18:00-19:00	ICANN61 Wrap Up Cocktail	Ballroom B

Acronym Helper

AC . . . . Advisory Committee
AGB . . . . Applicant Guide Book
ALAC . . . . At-Large Advisory Committee
ASO . . . . Address Supporting Organization
BC . . . . Business Constituency
BRG . . . . Brand Registry Group
C . . . . Constituency
CC2 . . . . Community Comment 2
ccNSO . . . . country code Names Supporting Organization
CCWG . . . . Cross-Community Working Group
CL&D Policy . . . . . Consistent Labeling & Display Policy of WHOIS output for all gTLDs
CPH . . . . Contracted Party House
CSG . . . . Commercial Stakeholder Group
DNA . . . . Domain Name Association
DNS . . . . Domain Name System
DT . . . . Drafting Team
EU . . . . European Union
EWG . . . . Expert Working Group
ExCom . . . . Executive Committee
GAC . . . . Governmental Advisory Committee
GDD . . . . Global Domains Division
GDPR . . . . General Date Protection Regulation
GNSO . . . . Generic Names Supporting Organization
gTLD . . . . generic Top-Level Domain
HDI . . . . Healthy Domains Initiative
IANA . . . . Internet Assigned Numbers Authority
ICANN org . . . . . . ICANN Organization
IDN . . . . Internationalized Domain Name
IGO . . . . International Governmental Organizations
INGO . . . . International Non-Governmental Organizations
IOC . . . . International Olympic Committee
IPC . . . . Intellectual Property Constituency
IRT . . . . Implementation Review Team
ISPCP . . . . Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency
NCPH . . . . Non-Contracted Party House
NCSG . . . . Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group
NCUC . . . . Non-Commercial Users Constituency
Next-Gen . . . . Next-Generation
NGPC . . . . New gTLD Program Committee
NPOC . . . . Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency
OEC . . . . Organizational Effectiveness Committee
PDP . . . . Policy Development Process
PSWG . . . . Public Safety Working Group

Acronym Helper

RA . . . . Registry Agreement
RAA . . . . Registrar Accreditation Agreement
RCRC . . . . Red Crescent Movement
RDAP . . . . Registration Data Access Protocol
RDDS . . . . Registration Data Directory Service
RDS . . . . Registration Directory Services
RFP . . . . Request for Proposal
RPM . . . . Rights Protection Mechanism
RSEP . . . . Registry Service Evaluation Process
RSP . . . . Registry Service Provider
RSSAC . . . . Root Server System Advisory Committee
RRA . . . . Registry-Registrar Agreement
RrSG . . . . Registry Stakeholder Group
RySG . . . . Registry Stakeholder Group
SG . . . . Stakeholder Group
SO . . . . Supporting Organization
SSAC . . . . Security and Stability Advisory Committee
SubPro . . . . Subsequent Procedures
T/T . . . . Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information
TM-PDDRP . . . . . . Trademark Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedures
TMCH . . . . Trademark Clearinghouse
UCTN . . . . Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs
UDRP . . . . Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy
URS . . . . Uniform Rapid Suspension
WG . . . . Working Group

ICANN | GNSO

Generic Names Supporting Organization