

**Council Workshop | 29 September 2020 | 18 UTC
Summary Note – January 2021**

A: Introduction

In September 2020 the ccNSO Council workshop focused on whether we could improve our PDP processes. Discussion focused on what changes people would like to see to the **process**, and what top priority changes we should make to **how we work within the process**.

B: Overall summary

On the PDP Process

There was shared sense that the process could be revised to aim to be a little bit lighter and quicker, with aspects allowed to operate in parallel, and firmer deadlines provided for some forms of input.

On changes to how we work within PDPs

Much of the discussion centred on the linkage with ICANN in-person meetings, with no consensus around whether focusing work at meetings, or away from meetings, would be the best approach. There was a general desire to explore methods and tools that allow for structured input and make the discussions more accessible where possible.

Section D of this note, over the page, provides the raw notes from the groups.

C: Proposer's observations and possible next step

The discussion, while interesting and informative for Council, did not land on any immediate consensus changes either to the formal PDP process, or how we work on it. My opinion is that this is in part because the process operates "OK", and because a good part of the discussion was on familiarizing ourselves with the issue and with how the PDP process works – other Council members may have other opinions.

A possible next step would be for a quick review of the formalities of the PDP process as written, and presenting to Council for discussion some specific concrete changes to consider. We can discuss this in a Council meeting or workshop. I would be happy to volunteer to take a look at the wording and propose some changes, along with a few other volunteers.

Finally, my apologies firstly that this note has taken so long, and my thanks to Joke for doing the first draft of the document.

Jordan Carter (.nz)
January 2021

Attached – Annex 1 – Briefing Paper for the Workshop.

D: Notes from the break-out room discussions:

PART 1 (What changes do you think should be made to the PDP Process?)

Group 4 (Katrina)

- Yes we should try and speed things up. Working for a fast changing industry and need to be able to adapt quicker, otherwise with long processes the result may be obsolete.
- It would be good to improve. How we can leverage social media tools: tools for those who cannot join meetings (due to time zones, etc)
- Maybe there are not so many issues that need to be solved (that's why there are not so many PDPs). Therefore we can be more effective and flexible.
- What if we have our own legal team to be faster?
- All the steps seem important. We should try to separate the actual work of the WG from ICANN meetings.

Group 2 (Byron)

- To be clarified: rules on GAC input
- If GAC does not provide feedback within a certain deadline, allow us to move forward nonetheless.
- All volunteers should commit to actually do the work

Group 3 (Nick)

- Lightweight process. No long comment periods, ping pong between various constituencies not needed
- What causes delay?
 - o Time limit is always maximum.
 - o Project discipline was lacking. Timelines were not respected
 - o Board agenda is busy, could cause several months of delay
- Do things in parallel. Accept initial report, simultaneously seek public comment and GAC input in parallel
- Requesters should due diligence. What they request should be within scope. Do not add additional delays by issue manager

Group 1 (Stephen)

- Carve-out is complicated
- Only 2 public comments: 1 for initial report, one for policy document
- Concern regarding majority plus 1 vote requirement. Getting the majority vote might be difficult.

PART 2: What two top priority changes should we consider making to how we do our PDP work?

Group 3 (Biyi) with Demi, Laura

- Main discussion around the structuring. Online or rather at face to face meetings? Get as much time as possible during the icann week sounds ok, but the week in itself

is already very hectic. Increase frequency of meetings, decisions face to face, and most work is done online.

Group 4 (Barrack)

- Collaboration/participation/contribution to documents. How to make non-native speakers eager to participate in face to face meetings? Speaking, or contributing to documents? Some do not feel comfortable with the language
- Use of mind maps can elicit contributions from various people, regardless of their backgrounds
- Adopting the concept developed by GNSO: Consensus playbook. Would work for the ccNSO too.

Group 1 (Pablo) Jordan, Stephen, Ai-Chin

- Try to focus on a shorter period of time. A lot easier to commit, for volunteers.
- Staff support. Concerns regarding what zoom can offer. Flipchart exercises?
- Members to focus more, be more diligent to deliver

Group 2 (Nick) Giovanni, Alejandra

- Risk that if you take shortcuts, you may need to repeat things
- Look for opportunities to work in parallel
- During an icann meeting you can accelerate
- Ccpdp4 is highly technical, expert people, no need for further machinery

For both parts: Summary from Joke:

- Overall too long
- Some progress improvement
- Flipping: no agreement
- Theme of diversity
- We should run our processes in such a way that you can contribute in various ways: in writing, by attending the meeting etc

Briefing Paper

ICANN69 ccNSO Council Workshop

When

Tuesday, 29 September 2020 (18:00-20:00 UTC)

Part 1: 18:00-19:00 UTC

Break: 19:00-19:05 UTC

Part 2: 19:05-20:00 UTC

About

The ccNSO Council decided to hold workshops at regular intervals. On 3 June 2020, the Council held its first Virtual Workshop, focusing on its Work Plan and the ccNSO priorities. Jordan Carter suggested the following topic for the next workshop: how to optimise the ccNSO policy development process. This is the main agenda topic of the ICANN69 Council Workshop, scheduled for Tue, 29 September. All Councillors interested are invited to attend.

The workshop consists of 2 parts:

1. Part 1 - PDP structure

The ccNSO PDP is set out in the ICANN bylaws and specifies a complex series of steps to be taken when the ccNSO creates policies that apply to ccTLDs. This PDP was developed around the time of ICANN's formation when there was lots of conflict. We should consider the process and if we think it should be changed, initiate work to change it. It is integral to the ccNSO's role that it has to have the ability to make policies from time to time, and having a contemporary way agreed to do that is important.

2. Part 2 - how we work on PDP issues

Within the rules of the ccNSO PDP, there is a lot of flexibility about working methods and "how the work gets done". This approach differs in different parts of the ICANN community. By sharing some concrete stories and some thinking about how this is, or could be done, we want to trigger discussion and test any appetite to try making some changes if the group feels this would be useful.

Session Flow

Time	Duration	Topic	Who
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PART 1	18:00-18:05	5 min.	Welcome & Introduction	Katrina Sataki, Jordan Carter
	18:05-18:15	10 min.	Introduction diagram or content	Jordan Carter, Bart Boswinkel
	18:15-18:18	3 min.	Q&A	All
	18:18-18:38	20 min.	Break-out session: <i>What changes do you think should be made to the PDP process?</i>	All
	18:38-18:58	20 min.	Reporting back from the Break-out sessions	1 reporter from each of the groups. Reporter to be selected by the groups.
	18:58-19:00	2 min.	Wrap-up part 1, announcement 5 min. break	Katrina Sataki
PART 2	19:05-19:15	10 min.	Introduction diagram or content	Jordan Carter, Nick Wenban-Smith, Stephen Deerhake
	19:15-19:18	3 min.	Q&A	All
	19:18-19:38	20 min.	Break-out session: <i>What two top priority changes should we consider making to how we do our PDP work?</i>	All
	19:38-19:58	20 min.	Reporting back from the Break-out sessions	1 reporter from each of the groups. Reporter to be selected by the groups.
	19:58-20:00	2 min.	Wrap-up	Katrina Sataki, Jordan Carter

Discussion questions

1. Part 1 - PDP structure

Q: What changes do you think should be made to the PDP process?

The goal is to get people to consider the current and one option, and to assess them, and come back with specific steps they would like to change.

2. Part 2 - how we work on PDP issues

Q: What two top priority changes should we consider making to how we do our PDP work?

The goal is to get people to consider how we work now, alternatives from GNSO and Jordan's proposal, and identify what Council think should be changed as a matter of priority - and why.

Background

1. Part 1 - PDP structure

- Part1DocA: diagram current PDP process (Bart)
- Part1DocB: straw person diagram of a revised process (Jordan)

2. Part 2 - how we work on PDP issues

- Part2DocA: note about ccPDP3 and how it was run (Stephen Deerhake) - TBC
- Part2DocB: note about GNSO PDPs and how they run them (Nick Wenban-Smith)
- Part2DocC: note about turning the process around so that engagement happens between "ICANN meetings" and solid work to the next version happens at "ICANN meetings" (Jordan Carter)