

7 July 2021

Karen Lentz
Vice President, Policy Research and Stakeholder Programs
ICANN

Wave 1.5 Report – PPSAI and T & T Implementation – Next Steps

Dear Karen,

As you are aware, the GNSO Council has considered in its recent meetings the Wave 1.5 report that was delivered to the Council on 2 March 2021 (see <https://mm.icann.org/pipermail/council/2021-March/024506.html>). It was noted that this report “will be submitted to the GNSO Council for determination on next steps”. As a result of its consideration of this report as well as the additional input provided (see <https://mm.icann.org/pipermail/council/2021-June/024769.html>), the Council notes the following:

- These policy recommendations were adopted by the ICANN Board in September 2015 (T & T) and August 2016 (PPSAI) and normally there is an expectation that once adopted by the ICANN Board, GNSO policy recommendations are implemented in a timely manner.
- However, there are different perspectives within the Council and in the community in relation to the urgency of implementing these policy recommendations in light of other competing policy development and implementation efforts and community workload. Thus, Council would defer the issue of priorities to ICANN org.
- The decision to pause the implementation of the PPSAI and Translation & Transliteration policy recommendations was a decision that was made by ICANN org, not the GNSO Council. As such, the Council is of the view that a decision to restart the implementation activities is not within the remit of the GNSO Council but for ICANN org to make. The Council would also like to point to its letter of February 2019 in which it also concluded that “considering the respective roles of ICANN Org in leading implementation work of consensus policy recommendations and the PPSAI IRT in overseeing the implementation work, the GNSO Council considers it appropriate to defer the decision on this issue to ICANN org and the PPSAI IRT, taking into account the various views of the SOs and ACs”.
- Should any policy issues arise during the implementation of these policy recommendations, there are processes and procedures that allow the Council to further consider these, but the Council is of the view that the respective Implementation Review Teams (IRTs) will be best placed to identify such possible issues.
- The Council would also like to point to the letter that was sent to the Council in September 2019 (see <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/namazi-to-drazek-et-al-05sep19-en.pdf>), in which it was noted that “following the completion of relevant EPDP work, ICANN org will reassess the existing draft PP materials in consultation with the PPSAI IRT and determine how to proceed with

implementation of the Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Program”. From a Council’s perspective this still seems a relevant and timely next step.

In conclusion, based on the analysis and the impacts identified in the Wave 1.5 report, there appears to be no required updates or any bar to continuing the implementation of the original policy recommendations.

We hope that we have hereby provided you with sufficient input to guide any next steps.
Sincerely,

Philippe Fouquart
GNSO Chair