

Day 1—Monday 29 January 2018

What is the GNSO Council and what is its function within ICANN? Overarching goal is to establish a common baseline of foundational knowledge about what the GNSO Council does and what Councilors’ roles are (including Council leadership and liaisons).

Timing	Topic	Desired outcomes/objectives/related reading material
8.00 – 8.30	Arrival at ICANN office	
8.30 – 9.30	Welcome & Introductions	
9.30 – 10:30	Role of the GNSO in the context of its history	1. Explain the ‘picket fence’ and ICANN SO/AC structure in the context of history of the organization and how this impacts on the GNSO’s role and function within ICANN.
10.30 – 11.00	Email break	
11.00 – 12.30	What is the GNSO Council and what does it do?	2. Establish a collaborative, safe environment in which all feel free to participate and contribute to the discussion. 3. Develop a common understanding by all of the role and responsibilities of the GNSO Council as well as our shared role and responsibilities; 4. Ensure all Councilors appreciate the precise responsibilities established by Bylaws Article 11. 5. Set the scene for Day 2 discussions which will consider post-transition new responsibilities of Council and Councilors by identifying activities/efforts Council is involved in that may not fall strictly within Article 11. 6. Consider the historic role of Council as scene-setting for IANA transition changes.
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch Break	
13.30 – 14.30	Role and responsibilities of Council leadership	7. Develop a common understanding by all of the role and responsibilities of the GNSO Council leadership, appreciating how this has evolved over time (thereby establishing a foundation for further evolution discussions in day 2 re post-transition) 8. Develop a common understanding by all of and build trust in the bicameral structure. 9. Identify what the leadership team does/does not do and dispel any possible misconceptions. 10. Develop an appreciation for the role that staff play in assisting leadership’s work. 11. Workshop possible problem areas with the leadership team, consider how these may be identified and resolved.
14.30 – 15.30	Role and responsibilities of Council Liaisons	12. Develop a common understanding by all of the role and responsibilities of GNSO Council liaisons (including PDP, Review Teams and GAC). 13. Identify all current liaison positions and their current appointees.

Timing	Topic	Desired outcomes/objectives/related reading material
		<p>14. Develop an overarching position description and expectations.</p> <p>15. Confirm/appoint new liaisons to all positions, as appropriate (note: GAC liaison is fixed)</p>
15.30 – 16.00	Email break	
16.00 – 17.30	Role and responsibilities of GNSO more broadly	<p>16. With the morning session’s history of GNSO and ICANN as a foundation for this discussion, compare historic and current perspectives on the role of the GNSO within ICANN as a unifying topic to bring the day’s discussion together.</p> <p>17. Recognition of common collective and individual responsibility of councilors and council to maintain the integrity of the PDP and exclusive role of the GNSO within ICANN.</p> <p>18. Develop ideas for improving/optimizing the validity and legitimacy of the PDP vis-à-vis GAC, ccNSO, ALAC, CCWGs, etc.</p> <p>19. Develop ideas for building and maintaining confidence amongst the broader Community that PDP is the mechanism to address problems within the picket fence.</p> <p>20. Develop appreciation for councillors’ role as stewards/officers of the Bylaws and org structure (ie, appreciate personal responsibility).</p>
17.30 – 18.00	Wrap up and summary of action items	Summarize discussions of the day and confirm action items
19.00 – 22.00	Council Development Activity	

Day 1 Required Reading—all documents are available [here](#):

- Article 11 of the ICANN Bylaws – this article describes the role of Generic Names Supporting Organization, its organization, the GNSO Council and Stakeholder Groups.
- Annex A, Annex A-1 and Annex A-2 of the ICANN Bylaws which outline the GNSO Policy Development Process, the Expedited Policy Development Process and the GNSO Guidance Process. These annexes should be reviewed in conjunction with the GNSO Operating Procedures which also include the GNSO PDP Manual, the expedited PDP manual and the GNSO Guidance Process Manual.
- Current version of the GNSO Operating Procedures which includes all the GNSO Council practices and procedures that are currently in effect as well as a number of annexes as referenced in the previous bullet as well as the GNSO Working Group Guidelines.
- Proposed job descriptions for GNSO Council Liaisons – this document brings together existing requirements from the GNSO Operating Procedures as well as proposed requirements for Council review and discussion.

Day 2—Tuesday 30 January 2018

Role and Responsibilities of the GNSO Council: How have these changed now that the GNSO is a participant in the Empowered Community?

Timing	Topic	Desired outcome / objectives/relating reading
8.30 – 9.00	Arrival at ICANN office	
9.00 – 10.30	GNSO Post-Transition	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build on baseline understanding from Day 1 sessions on the role of Council and Council leadership to achieve a common understanding of what the implications of The Transition are and specifically, what the Empowered Community is. Also, why the EC was introduced, and what the EC replaces from prior USG contractual oversight 2. Identify possible situations where specific issues and challenges might arise in relation to GNSO participation in the EC and possible means for resolving difficult situations.
10.30 – 11.00	Email break	
11.00 – 12.00	Role of GNSO Council post-Transition	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Identify and discuss the specific impacts of EC membership on the GNSO Council 4. Highlight any changes in the roles of GNSO Council or Council leadership arising from GNSO membership in the EC 5. Opportunity to further explore other areas where there may have been or may be future expansion of Council’s remit and document points of agreement and disagreement
12.00 – 13.00	Changes to GNSO Operating Procedures and related governance documents to facilitate participation in Empowered Community	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Council to review proposed changes to Operating Procedures in order to acknowledge these and be able to decide on next steps in the Council meeting taking place in the afternoon 7. All Councillors to have a common understanding of why Operating Procedures require amendments and to appreciate the precise changes proposed
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch break	
14.00 – 16.00	GNSO Council Meeting	
16.00 – 18.00	Cocktail at ICANN office with invited staff guests	Opportunity to engage with ICANN org LA staff.
18.00 onwards	Free evening	

Day 2 Required Reading—all documents are available [here](#):

- Empowered Community Overview & Procedures presentation
- Empowered community infographics – overview of the empowered community powers and how these powers are used.
- Overview of proposed changes to the GNSO Operating Procedures and Bylaws presentation –please note that this presentation was prepared by staff for the discussion that took place at ICANN61 and provides an overview of the background to the proposed changes, the changes proposed and the input provided in response to the public comment forum.
- Proposed revisions to the ICANN Bylaws – redline version of section 11.3 of the ICANN Bylaws which includes the proposed new voting thresholds which are the implementation of the Bylaws Drafting Team recommendations.
- Proposed revisions to GNSO Operating Procedures – redline version of GNSO Operating Procedures outlining the proposed changes which are the implementation of the Bylaws DT recommendations.
- GNSO2 Review Progress & Implementation Presentation – update on the status of implementation of the GNSO Review recommendations

(Note: For further details on the Bylaws Drafting Team recommendations as well as the staff report on the proposed implementation of the recommendations, please see the additional reading (optional) folder)

Day 3—Wednesday 31 January 2018

2018 Strategic planning: What is the GNSO’s workload this year, what milestones will arise, and how can we improve effectiveness in meeting those milestones?

Timing	Topic	Desired outcome / objectives
8.30 – 9.00	Arrival at ICANN office	
9.00 – 11.00	How to manage Council’s 2018 workload: strategies to increase effectiveness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify 2018 workload 2. Identify areas of improvement in managing the workload 3. Identify strengths and weaknesses in Council’s relationship with and support from ICANN org.
11.00 – 11.15	Email break	
11:15 – 12:00	What does Council need/want to achieve in 2018, and how to do this?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Develop a shared understanding of GNSO work efforts and timelines in order to develop a roadmap for the 12 months ahead. 5. Identify shared (Council and PDPs) milestones, strategic targets 6. Consider how 16 days of f2f meeting time will be utilized to meet these shared milestones and targets (advanced planning for ICANN61, 62 and 63)
12.00 – 13.30	Lunch with GNSO Board Members and Liaisons	
13.30 – 15.00	What does Council need/want to achieve in 2018, and how to do this? (cont’d)	
15.00 – 16.00	Wrap up and close of session	
16.00 onwards	Departures	

Day 3 Required Reading—all documents are available [here](#):

- GNSO Project List – overview and status of ongoing GNSO projects
- Meeting Strategy Working Group Final Report – the current meeting structure is the result of the recommendations in this report
- Meeting Strategy Incremental Changes – proposed incremental changes by ICANN Staff to the existing meeting strategy. These proposed incremental changes are currently out for public comment.
- GNSO ICANN Meeting Strategy (2015) – original GNSO approach for translating Meeting Strategy Working Group recommendations into the GNSO schedule.

- Staff Discussion Paper on Efficient and Effective Policy Development – discussion paper addressing questions such as what are the limits of the volunteer model at ICANN? How can ICANN most effectively and efficiently leverage and support community volunteers to produce high quality policy outcomes? Objective is to initiate a discussion to optimize increased engagement & participation while ensuring efficient & effective policy development.
- 2018 project timing planning – overview of ongoing and expected projects to be initiated in 2018 that will (likely) require GNSO Council involvement
- Framework for review of adopted GNSO Policy Recommendations – with a number of reviews of adopted GNSO policy recommendations coming up, a framework for review may facilitate this work. Staff is putting forward some high-level ideas and questions for Council consideration