

FURTHER INFORMATION ON A POSSIBLE POLICY STATUS REPORT (PSR) ON THE POLICY & IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Background:

In June 2015, the GNSO Council adopted the [Policy and Implementation Working Group Final Report](#). The recommendations of the Policy & Implementation Working Group resulted in:

- The GNSO Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) (see <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/bylaws-en/#annexA1> and <https://gns0.icann.org/sites/default/files/file/field-file-attach/annex-4-epdp-manual-24oct19-en.pdf>)
- The GNSO Guidance Process (GGP) (see <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/bylaws-en/#annexA2> and <https://gns0.icann.org/sites/default/files/file/field-file-attach/annex-5-ggp-manual-24oct19-en.pdf>)
- The GNSO Input Process (GIP) (see <https://gns0.icann.org/sites/default/files/file/field-file-attach/annex-3-input-process-manual-24oct19-en.pdf>)
- The Implementation Review Team (IRT) [Principles & Guidelines](#)¹, as well as the requirement to form an IRT following the adoption by the ICANN Board of GNSO Policy recommendations
- The [Consensus Policy Implementation Framework](#) (CPIF)
- A set of policy & implementation principles / requirements

As part of that resolution, it was noted that “The GNSO Council recommends that a review of these recommendations is carried out at the latest five years following their implementation to assess whether the recommendations have achieved what they set out to do and/or whether any further enhancements or changes are needed”.

PDP Improvements:

As an open action item, the staff support team included the review of the Policy & Implementation recommendations as part of the list of items to be further considered in the context of the PDP Improvements project (see [here](#) for further details). As part this consideration, it was originally suggested that:

“GNSO Staff Support to develop a report, similar to the Policy Status Report (PSR) that sets out the possible scope of the review, issues encountered and proposed approach that the Council & community would then consider to decide on next steps. Similar to the PSR, this report would be published for public comment to allow the community to identify any further issues that should be addressed”.

¹ Linked to this is also the GNSO Council liaison to the IRT role description (see <https://gns0.icann.org/sites/default/files/file/field-file-attach/gns0-liaison-wg-28sep21-en.pdf>) that was developed at a later stage and flagged for further review as part of PDP 3.0.

In response to the survey that was conducted, some responses indicated that further information about what a PSR would entail would be helpful before deciding on how to proceed. This document aims to provide this further detail.

Policy Status Report

A Policy Status Report (PSR) is referenced in the context of the Consensus Policy Implementation Framework (CPIF) as part of post-implementation review. It is noted that:

“After there has been adequate time to generate data and metrics to evaluate implemented policy recommendations, Compliance and GNSO Policy Staff should provide a Post-Implementation Policy Status Report to the GNSO Council with sufficient data and metrics to assess the impact of the policy. Unless a data collection and reporting timeframe is specifically recommended by a Policy Development Process Working Group, generally the Policy Status Report should be provided within 18 to 24 months of the policy’s effective date. The Policy Status Report may serve as the basis for further review and/or revisions to the policy recommendations if deemed appropriate.”

Previous examples of completed PSRs include the [Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy PSR](#), which was used as a starting point in the review of Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy, and the [Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy PSR](#), which may be used as a starting point for further RPMs policy work. A PSR should not be confused with a Preliminary Issue Report. Whereas an Issue Report describes the issue and recommends whether the GNSO Council should initiate a policy development process, the scope of a PSR is to provide an overview of the policy as implemented and to support the assessment of a policy’s effectiveness. The PSR may provide relevant data points to help build the structure of an Issue Report and PDP Charter, should the Council decide that the next step in the review is to request a Preliminary Issue Report.

In the context of the Policy & Implementation recommendations, it is anticipated that a PSR would include:

- General description of the original recommendations and their intent;
- Details of the implementation of the recommendations and use to date;
- Issues encountered that may require further consideration should a review be initiated;
- Recommendation for if/how a potential review should/could be conducted.

The PSR would then be published for public comment to allow the broader community to review the findings and weigh in on whether the issues encountered are shared and/or whether there are further issues that need to be added to the list of items for further consideration.

Following the closing of the public comment forum, the staff support team would update the PSR with the input provided and submit it to the Council for its consideration.

Council consideration of PSR

Following the submission of the PSR, the GNSO Council would consider the content of the PSR and decide if/how to proceed. For example, it could decide that work is to be undertaken by a Working Group, similar to the Policy & Implementation Working Group, on certain specific parts of the Policy & Implementation recommendations, or it could find that there are no significant issues requiring further work at this point (which would mark the review as complete). There is no pre-determined outcome of a PSR, but a PSR allows the Council to take an informed decision on whether further work is deemed necessary, and if so, plan for that work accordingly.

Expected resource impact

The GNSO Staff support team would take the lead in developing the PSR, in close consultation with other ICANN org functions such as GDS. This is not expected to negatively impact support for any ongoing GNSO projects. As no urgency has been identified at this point, the timing of public comment and subsequent Council consideration could be planned not to conflict with other ongoing priorities.