



GNSO Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process Working Group

**Roger Carney
PDP WG Chair**

Agenda

1. Chair Welcome
2. About the PDP and Status Update
3. Discussion of [Additional Security Measures](#)
4. AOB

About the PDP

About the Transfer Policy

ICANN consensus policy governing the procedure and requirements for **registrants to transfer their domain names from one registrar to another.**

- Formerly called the Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy (IRTP)
- Went into effect in November 2004
- GNSO reviewed the policy once before, shortly after implementation

Mission and Scope: PDP to conduct a **holistic review of the Transfer Policy** and determine if changes to the policy are needed to improve the ease, security, and efficacy of inter-registrar and inter-registrant transfers.

- Conducted in 2 Phases under a single [Charter](#) & covering 8 topics.
- PDP began Phase 1(a) in May 2021:
 - ➔ Phase 1(a) Topics: Forms of Authorization and AuthInfo Codes
- The working group has now conducted initial deliberations on each of the Phase 1(a) topics and has begun to develop “candidate recommendations” and draft responses to charter questions.
- While members and alternates are limited to representatives designated by SO/AC/SG/Cs, anyone can sign up to observe.

TPR Phase 1 - Project Status

Project Tracking & Rollup DASHBOARD



Project Name

PDP: Transfer Policy Review - Phase 1

Program

Transfers

Project Sponsor

GNSO Council

Project Information

25%

% Complete

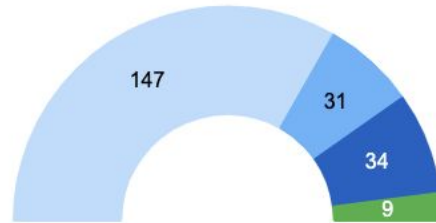
02/18/21

Actual Start

12/28/23

Planned Finish

Tasks by Status



Project Contacts

Roger Carney

Chair

n/a

Vice_Chair

Greg DiBiase

Liaison

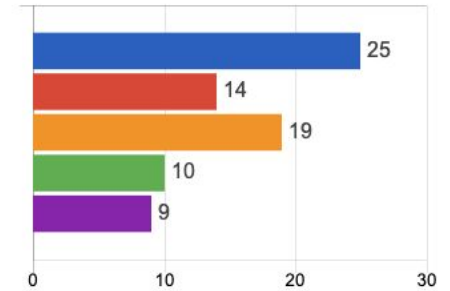
Emily Barabas

Staff_Lead

Berry Cobb

Project_Manager

Participant Summary



Project Status & Health

Project Status: **On-Schedule**

Project Health: **On-Target**

Summary Gantt & Key Milestones

Health	Primary Task	Current Start	Current Finish	% Complete	Status	Timeline											
						2021				2022				2023			
						Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	PDP: Transfer Policy Review - Phase 1	02/18/21	12/28/23	25%	In Progress	PDP: Transfer Policy Review - Phase 1											
	PROJECT CONTROL	02/18/21	12/28/23	35%	In Progress	PROJECT CONTROL											
	GROUP DELIBERATIONS	05/13/21	02/22/23	41%	In Progress	GROUP DELIBERATIONS											
	Phase 1A Policy Topics	06/02/21	05/11/22	36%	In Progress	Phase 1A Policy Topics											
	Phase 1B Policy Topics	06/15/22	02/22/23			Phase 1B Policy Topics											
	INITIAL REPORT	06/24/21	05/17/23	13%	In Progress	INITIAL REPORT											
	Publish Initial Report	06/15/22	06/15/22			Publish Initial Report											
	Publish Initial Report	03/29/23	03/29/23			Publish Initial Report											
	FINAL REPORT	08/04/22	08/16/23		Not Started	FINAL REPORT											
	Review of public comments - Phase 1A	08/04/22	09/14/22			Review of public comments - Phase 1A											
	Review of public comments - Phase 1B	05/18/23	06/28/23			Review of public comments - Phase 1B											
	Submission of Final Report to the GNSO Council	08/16/23	08/16/23			Submission of Final Report to the GNSO Council											

Phase 1(a) Topics

AuthInfo Code Management: Inter-Registrar Transfers

What is the AuthInfo Code?

A token created by the registrar of record and provided upon request to the registrant or designated representative.*

How is it used in transfers?

Required to transfer a domain name from one registrar to another registrar and when presented authorizes the transfer.*

How is it provided?

Losing registrar may provide AuthInfo Code via control panel, or by other means within 5 calendar days (email, SMS, etc).

Gaining & Losing Registrar Form of Authorization (FOA)



Gaining Registrar: The registrar to which the registrant is transferring the domain name.



Losing Registrar: The registrar from which the registrant is transferring the domain name.



Gaining Form of Authorization: A required form sent by the Gaining Registrar to the Registered Name Holder to confirm the Registered Name Holder's intent to transfer the domain name.

- Typically an email to Registered Name Holder to confirm intent by clicking a designated link. Before GDPR, the transfer could not occur without this confirmation.



Losing Form of Authorization: Losing Registrar sends the Registered Name Holder a notice to confirm Registered Name Holder's intent to transfer. Absent objection to the transfer within 5 calendar days, the Losing Registrar processes request.

FOA: Further Work Needed

- **EPDP** included the **workaround from the Temporary Specification in its recommendations**, which were **adopted by the ICANN Board**.
- Registrars identified challenges in ICANN org's position that a Gaining Registrar is required to send a Gaining FOA where the email address "is available", as there is no guarantee that the email goes directly to the registrant.
- ICANN Board passed a resolution to **defer contractual compliance enforcement of the Gaining FOA requirement** pending further work in this area.
- Contracted Party House Tech Ops Subcommittee has developed a proposal for a proposed transfer process.

Status

Potential Recommendations Under Consideration

- Eliminate requirement for the Gaining Registrar to send the Gaining FOA and obtain consent from the Registered Name Holder before it may proceed with the transfer.
- Eliminate requirement for the Losing Registrar to send the Losing FOA to the Registered Name Holder.
- New notifications from the Losing Registrar to the Registered Name Holder when key changes are made to the account, some mandatory for the Losing Registrar to send, others optional.
- Additional security for the AuthInfo Code, which the group is recommending be called the “Transfer Authorization Code” (TAC). Highlights:
 - Minimum requirements for TAC syntax/complexity, adherence to requirements confirmed by registry
 - Losing Registrar generates TAC upon request
 - TAC may only be used once
 - TAC is valid for a limited period of time (Time to Live)
 - Registry must securely store the TAC using a one-way hash that protects the TAC from disclosure