

### Fast Flux Hosting Final Report

#### What is the GNSO Council deciding on today?

The GNSO Council has discussed and reviewed the Final Report of the Fast Flux Hosting Working Group in its previous meeting. The GNSO Council is expected to decide today whether to endorse the ideas for next steps put forward by the Working Group, which are:

- Highlight which solutions / recommendations could be addressed by policy development, best practices and/or industry solutions
- Consider whether registration abuse policy provisions could address fast flux by empowering registries / registrars to take down a domain name involved in fast flux
- Explore the development of a Fast Flux Data Reporting System
- Explore the possibility of ICANN as a best practices facilitator
- Explore the possibility to involve other stakeholders in the fast flux policy development process
- Redefine the issue and scope

#### Why is this important?

Fast flux attacks refer to techniques used by cybercriminals to evade detection by rapidly modifying IP addresses and/or name servers. Fast flux is also used as a technique for legitimate purposes for example by organizations that operate highly targetable networks, content distribution networks, mobility support, and, free speech / advocacy groups. Following a SSAC Advisory on Fast Flux Hosting and an Issues Report, the GNSO Council launched a Policy Development Process (PDP) on Fast Flux Hosting in May 2008. The Working Group was tasked to answer a series of questions about fast flux hosting, including who benefits from fast flux, who is harmed, what technical and policy measures could be implemented by registries and registrars to mitigate the negative effects of fast flux, and, what are some of the best practices available with regard to protection from fast flux.



# GNSO Council Meeting – 3 Sept 09

## Agenda Background Information

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### **Where can I find more information?**

You can find the Fast Flux Hosting Final Report here: <http://gns0.icann.org/issues/fast-flux-hosting/fast-flux-final-report-06aug09-en.pdf>. To review the presentation that was provided to the GNSO Council summarizing the report and its findings, please see:

<http://gns0.icann.org/correspondence/ff-presentation-to-council-13aug09-en.pdf>.

### **Background Information**

The following motion has been put forward (held over from 13 August meeting):

#### *Whereas:*

On 30 May 2008, the GNSO Council initiated a PDP and chartered a Working Group, comprised of interested stakeholders and Constituency representatives, in collaboration with knowledgeable individuals and organizations, to develop potential policy options to curtail the criminal use fast flux hosting;

Whereas the Working Group was asked to consider ten questions, specifically:

- Who benefits from fast flux, and who is harmed?
- Who would benefit from the cessation of the practice, and who would be harmed?
- Are registry operators involved, or could they be, in fast flux hosting activities? If so, how?
- Are registrars involved in fast flux hosting activities? If so, how?
- How are registrants affected by fast flux hosting?
- How are Internet users affected by fast flux hosting?
- What technical, e.g. changes to the way in which DNS updates operate, and policy, e.g. changes to registry / registrar agreements or rules governing permissible registrant behavior measures could be implemented by registries and registrars to mitigate the negative effects of fast flux?
- What would be the impact (positive or negative) of establishing limitations, guidelines, or restrictions on registrants, registrars and/or registries with respect to practices that enable or facilitate fast flux hosting? What would be the impact of these limitations, guidelines, or



restrictions to product and service innovation?

- What are some of the best practices with regard to protection from fast flux?
- Obtain expert opinion, as appropriate, on which areas of fast flux are in scope and out of scope for GNSO policy making;

Whereas the Working Group has faithfully executed the PDP, as stated in the By-laws, resulting in a Final Report delivered to the GNSO Council on 13 Aug 2009;

Whereas the Working Group did not make recommendations for new consensus policy, or changes to existing policy;

Whereas the Working Group has developed and broadly supports several recommendations, and outlined possible next steps;

Whereas the GNSO Council has reviewed and discussed these recommendations and the Final Report;

The GNSO Council RESOLVES:

To extend our sincere thanks to the Working Group members, to the Chair James Bladel, to the Council Liaison Mike Rodenbaugh, and to two members of the ICANN Policy Staff, Marika Konings and Glen de Saint G ry, for their efforts in bringing this Working Group to a successful conclusion;

To encourage ongoing discussions within the community regarding the development of best practices and / or policy changes to identify and mitigate the illicit uses of Fast Flux; and

To examine whether existing policy sufficiently empowers Registries and Registrars to mitigate illicit uses of Fast Flux, as a component of any future Registration Abuse PDP(s); and

To encourage staff, interested stakeholders, and subject matter experts to analyze the feasibility



of a Fast Flux Data Reporting System to collect data on the prevalence of illicit use, as a tool to inform future discussions and / or policy work; and

To encourage staff to examine the role that ICANN can play as a “best practices facilitator” within the community; and

To consider the inclusion of other stakeholders from both within and outside the ICANN community for any future Fast Flux policy development efforts; and

To ensure that successor PDPs on this subject, if any, address the charter definition issues identified in the Fast Flux Final Report.