Minutes of the GNSO Council Meeting 17 February 2022
[Agenda](#) and [Documents](#)

GNSO Council meeting held 06:00 UTC: https://tinyurl.com/2yy8fw4t

(Wednesday) 22:00 Los Angeles; (Thursday) 01:00 Washington DC; 06:00 London; 07:00 Paris; 09:00 Moscow; 17:00 Melbourne

List of attendees:
Nominating Committee Appointee (NCA): **– Non-Voting** – Olga Cavalli
Contracted Parties House
Registrar Stakeholder Group: Antonia Chu, Kristian Ørmen, Greg Dibiase,
gTLD Registries Stakeholder Group: Maxim Alzoba, Kurt Pritz, Sebastien Ducos,
Nominating Committee Appointee (NCA): Desiree Miloshevic
Non-Contracted Parties House
Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG): Marie Pattullo, Mark Datysgeld, Philippe Fouquart, Thomas Rickert, John McElwaine, Flip Petillion
Non Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG) Manju Chen, Wisdom Donkor, Farrell Folly (joined after Consent Agenda vote), Stephanie Perrin, Juan Manuel Rojas, Tomslin Samme-Nlar,
Nominating Committee Appointee (NCA): Paul McGrady
GNSO Council Liaisons/Observers:
Justine Chew – ALAC Liaison
Jeffrey Neuman– GNSO liaison to the GAC
Maarten Simon – ccNSO observer (apologies)

Guest speaker: Alperen Eken, ICANN org

ICANN Staff
David Olive – Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support and Managing Manager, ICANN
Regional - apologies
Mary Wong – Vice President, Strategic Community Operations, Planning and Engagement
Marika Konings - Vice President Policy Development Support
Julie Hedlund – Policy Development Support Director
Steve Chan – Senior Director
Berry Cobb – Policy Consultant
Emily Barabas – Policy Senior Manager
Ariel Liang – Policy Senior Specialist
Caitlin Tubergen – Policy Director - apologies
Terri Agnew - Operations Support, Lead Administrator
Nathalie Peregrine – Manager, Operations GNSO

[Zoom recording](#)
[Transcript](#)

Item 1. Administrative Matters

1.1 - Roll Call

1.2 - Statements of Interest

There were no updates to Statements of Interest

1.3 - Review / Amend Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

1.4 - Note the status of minutes for the previous Council meetings per the GNSO Operating Procedures:

Minutes of the GNSO Council meeting on 16 December 2021 were posted on 03 January 2022.

Minutes of the GNSO Council meeting on 20 January 2022 were posted on 03 February 2022.

Item 2. Opening Remarks / Review of Projects and Action List

Steve Chan, ICANN org, briefly commented on the Projects List and Action Item List, including the Project Management portfolio, as circulated previously on the GNSO Council mailing list.

He highlighted that the portfolio suite of tools is updated for every monthly meeting. There are two key components: the Action Decision Radar (ADR) and the Project List.

He encouraged the review of the monthly project packages (posted on the GNSO Correspondence page) sent by each PDP, EPDP, Scoping Teams to Council, by Council as the manager of GNSO PDPs. He outlined the fact that any issue spotted should be raised to Council, the same case being for any mitigation solutions. During the GNSO Council Strategic Planning Session in 2021, councilors mentioned wanting to take a more active part in Council work. Reviewing the project packages could contribute to increasing the efficiency of the GNSO Council.

Action items: none

Item 3. Consent Agenda

There was one item for Council consideration on the Consent Agenda:

● Motion to approve Chris Disspain to serve as the GNSO's ICANN Fellowship Program mentor

All councilors present on the call voted in favor of the motion.

Council vote

Action items:

- The GNSO Secretariat to notify Chris Disspain that the GNSO Council has approved his appointment as the GNSO's ICANN Fellowship Program mentor
- The GNSO Council instructs the GNSO Secretariat to communicate resolved #1 to staff supporting the ICANN Fellowship Program
- The GNSO Council requests the GNSO Secretariat to send a response to the applicant who was not nominated, thanking them for their interest and encouraging them to apply for future opportunities as they arise

Item 4. COUNCIL DISCUSSION - Update on the Council Committee for Overseeing and Implementing Continuous Improvement (CCOICI) Pilot

Olga Cavalli, CCOICI Chair, presented updates on the CCOICI pilot work to date. Olga will be Council liaison to the newly started Statement of Interest Taskforce.
The CCOICI was tasked with considering if the Working Group Self Assessment (WGSA) could be improved with periodic assessment as well as exit interviews with any interested parties. This could be combined with PDP3.0 Improvements #13, as well as drawing benefit from collective experience on the CCOICI.
Proposed updates: inform the Chartering Organization of potential issues that may need to be addressed or for future efforts. The charter should state if and when a periodic survey should take place to provide flexibility.This would normally take place after the publication of the Initial Report, but would be dependent on Council and/ charter decisions. There will also be clarification of which information should be shared with whom, when should anonymous responses be allowed, and the role of leadership.
Council is now to review proposed updates and new materials and provide feedback to CCOICI, there will then be a public comment on the proposed changes to the GNSO Operating Procedures. The work aims to conclude by the end of 2022.

Jeff Neuman, GNSO Liaison to the GAC, raised the issue of responses being anonymous to the community but names available to ICANN org.

Justine Chew, GNSO Liaison to the ALAC, thanked Olga and the CCOICI for their work. Regarding the survey template, section 1 concerning participant identification, she asked if they would edit "ALAC" to "ALAC/ At-Large Committee".

Olga Cavalli, CCOICI Chair, committed to looking into the text and considering the two suggestions.

Action Items

- With respect to the suggested revisions to the Working Group Self-Assessment, the CCOICI to consider those made during the meeting for incorporation in its Final Report which will be submitted after review of public comments (namely, whether it should be possible for respondents who choose to, to have their name published in the summary report and adding "At-Large Community" as one of the respondent affiliations to the survey).
- Councilors to review the proposed changes and new documents (see https://mm.icann.org/pipermail/council/2022-February/025426.html) and share any suggestions / comments with the mailing list so that these can be considered by the CCOICI.

Item 5. COUNCIL DISCUSSION - Update on GNSO Council Implementation of Workstream 2 (WS2)
Ariel Liang and **Alperen Eken, ICANN org**, [presented](#) an update on the GNSO Council Implementation of Workstream 2 (WS2).

WS2 Recommendations Overview:
They are divided into 8 high level recommendations, covering over 100 recommendations, all reviewed by the ICANN Board. Among the community directed recommendations, two are to be implemented by community groups independently, others may require more coordination: Diversity, Guidelines, Human Rights, SO/AC Accountability.
Assessment
Regarding the GNSO Council, Rec 2 Guidelines (2.1, 2.2) related to Board Director removal and Rec 6 regarding SO/AC Accountability are the main focus. From a staff perspective, the implementation is completed for the Board Director removal as the GNSO Council implemented guidelines via its role as Decisional Participant. Regarding Rec 2.1.2, further language may be needed via an update of the guidelines. Rec 6 is a non mandatory recommendation but its implementation is nevertheless almost complete, given the content of the GNSO Operating Procedures and the structure of the Council as a representative body. Remaining is Rc 6.1.5, which requests the Council publish a brief report on yearly activities to improve accountability, transparency and participation. This would fall under Best Practices, and is not mandatory.
Community Coordination Group (CCG) Overview
This group serves as a central point for exchanges regarding WS2 recommendations. Each SO/AC. GNSO SG/RALO appointed one representative. Olga Cavalii represents the GNSO Council. CCG will cover Rec1 (Diversity), Rec 2 (Guidelines) Rec 3 (Human Rights). This is not a decisional group, considerations will be taken back to the appointing groups. All groups are nearing completion of assigning representatives. The first call will be held after ICANN73. Under Diversity, there are 7 elements to consider as well as how to handle complaints regarding diversity. Under Guidelines, there will be consideration of a Standalone Framework for exercising EC powers. Under Human Rights, Rec 3, coordination is not necessary, but can benefit from exchanges.
Next steps
The CCG will coordinate with other community groups on the recs 1, 2.3, and 3 to cover future implementation, prioritization of recommendations, need for additional community consultation, and how to reach broad community agreement. The CCOICI could take on some of the work: review staff assessment of implementation status, revisit Council's initial prioritization of Rec 1, carry out implementation of Rec 3 (Human Rights) from the Council's perspective, Rec 6.1.5 (non mandatory) discuss how to implement, rank recs 1, 2.3, 3 from Council's perspective. Stakeholder Groups (SGs) and Constituencies (Cs) will need to identify WS2 experts to assist the CCOICI for implementation.

Jeff Neuman, GNSO Liaison to the GAC, asked why recommendations about staff and Board accountability weren't selected to be taken into consideration by the GNSO Council. He noted he would address his question during the Implementation Review session.

Regarding next steps, **Ariel Liang, ICANN org,** clarified that the CCOICI may first review the additional recommendations and decide if they can take on the extra work, specifically Rec 3. Staff is also on hand to assist.

Philippe Fouquart, GNSO Chair, asked for councilors to take the next steps proposal back to their communities, for the CCOICI to consider on their next call.

Action Item:

- The GNSO Council to consider the proposal for the CCOICI to undertake the implementation work of relevant WS2 recommendations and if there is no objection from the Council by the next Council meeting, the CCOICI to start the deliberation based on the path proposed in the presentation provided during the Council meeting (see https://gnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/policy/2022/presentation/update-gnso-council-implementation-ws2-17feb22-en.pdf)

Item 6. COUNCIL DISCUSSION - ICANN73 Planning

With ICANN73 approaching, the GNSO Council discussed its upcoming joint meetings with the Governmental Advisory Committee, the ICANN Board and the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC).

ICANN staff provided an overview of the Prep Week and ICANN73 schedules as well as a reminder to register to the ICANN73 website in order to access the schedule.

Philippe Fouquart, GNSO Chair, reviewed the topics and suggested topic leads.

Here are the suggested topics and leads:

- SSAD ODP: Sebastien Ducos
- SSAD SubPro: Jeffrey Neuman
- DNS abuse: Mark Datysgeld /Paul McGrady
- Modifying gTLD consensus policies: Sebastien Ducos(topic suggested by the GNSO, not ALAC)
- Priorities for 2022: Council leadership (tbd)

Board submitted questions:
- What are your key priorities for ICANN work in 2022, how do these priorities help achieve ICANN's common objectives as expressed in the FY 2021-2025 Strategic Plan, and how do you see Community, Board and org moving forward together on a way to achieve these?
- If any, what suggestions would you have to enhance ICANN's effectiveness and efficiency with regards to the process of implementation after adoption of a PDP or Review recommendations?

Philippe Fouquart, GNSO Chair, suggested taking the points raised from the informal call with Becky and Matthew.
Jeff Neuman, GNSO Liaison to the SubPro ODP, raised that he would be adding this point to the list of topics. **Philippe Fouquart, GNSO Chair,** added that there would also be an update added pertaining to the EPDP Phase 2 small team.

Action Items:
- GNSO Council leadership to initiate a discussion on the GNSO Council list concerning the Board topics to obtain input on proposed speaking points / positions. GNSO Secretariat to send out list of ICANN73 sessions of interest to GNSO Council
- Council leadership to submit proposed Council topics (update on EPDP Phase 2 small team activities and SubPro ODP to Board Support)

Item 7. Status Update on Select Strategic Planning Session Action Items (AIs)

Councilors reviewed the status of the [Action Items](#) which stemmed from the GNSO Council Strategic Planning Session which took place at the end of 2021.

Council Leadership discussed meeting more frequently with Göran Marby, ICANN CEO. There is a follow up session scheduled for 10 May 2022 for SPS AI review and a discussion with Göran Marby.

Sebastien Ducos, GNSO Council Vice Chair, will be drafting the Council Commitments document with Paul McGrady, NomCom Appointee (NCA).

Action Items:

- Action Item 1: Council leadership to develop a first draft of a proposed "Council Commitments" for Council consideration.
- Action Item 6: Council leadership to explore possibility to set up a regular informal Q & A session with ICANN CEO for GNSO Council, either as part of future SPS or intersessionally. / Action Item 12: To check on the progress of the implementation of these action items as well as allow for updates to be made, a post-SPS meeting will be scheduled in the 4-6 month timeframe after this meeting.
- Action Items: None - AI6 is considered complete as a meeting has been scheduled that will allow for informal Q & A session with ICANN CEO as well as review of outstanding SPS Action items.
- Action Item 11: Council leadership to set up an informal conversation with Becky and Matthew to obtain their feedback on the SPS discussions as well as their suggestions on how the Council can best engage with the ICANN Board on this topic.
- Further Action Item: Council leadership to share further details from the meeting with Becky and Matthew with the Council mailing list. Council members to provide their input on these details and more specifically the suggestion to schedule a brainstorming session with interested Board members to discuss in an informal and open manner how interaction and engagement between the GNSO Council and ICANN Board can be improved. Council leadership to continue working on a proposed approach for such a session.

Item 8: Any Other Business
8.1 - EPDP Phase 2 Small Team update
Two one- hour calls to date, with limited progress as there is the remit to define. The next deadline is for the small team to gather questions aimed at Org to clarify the ODA.

8.2 - DNS Abuse Small Team Update
One meeting to date. Group agreed that outreach was the best first step, aiming at the GAC, ALAC, SSAC, those most interested in the topic, to identify the problems which could be solved by policy development in particular.

8.3 - SubPro ODA Update
The update was [circulated](#) to the Council list last week including the [timeline](#) provided by the SubPro ODP team. Board approval of the recommendations until January 2023 at the earliest means that according to the CPIF, an Implementation Review Team would not be able to begin its efforts. Certain recommendations approved by the Council called for an IRT, as well as an Applicant Support IRT which would be separate from the other issues. Certain aspects of the recommendations would pertain to policy and therefore could be envisaged out of an IRT structure. What are Council's thoughts on the matter?

Could be added to the topics of discussion for the ICANN73 bilateral with ICANN Board. Guidance could alternatively be provided by Council to a reconvened PDP as per the PDP Manuel. Would the membership structure of a reconvened PDP be restricted to be made more efficient?

<u>Action Item</u>:

- GNSO leadership to develop a draft of next steps for the GNSO Council to review to discuss with the Board at the ICANN73 bilateral meeting

<u>8.4 - GNSO Chair timeline</u>
Published here: https://gnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/file/field-file-attach/proposed-council-chair-09feb22-en.pdf

<u>8.5 - GNSO Council Representative WS2 Community Coordination Group - Olga Cavalli</u>

<u>Action item</u>:

- On behalf of the GNSO Council the GNSO Secretariat will thank Olga Cavalli for volunteering to be the GNSO Council Representative to the WS2 Community Coordination Group.

<u>Goodbye to Kristian Ørmen, RrSG councilor.</u>
Sebastien Ducos, GNSO Council Vice Chair, thanked Kristian Ørmen for his contribution on Council and beyond, on behalf of the Contracted Party House for his years of service in the RrSG and CPH Leadership. He wished him good luck with the ccNSO.

Philippe Fouquart, **GNSO Chair,** adjourned the meeting at 08:03 UTC.

The next GNSO Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 9 March 2022 during ICANN73.