IDN PDP Working Group Telephone Conference

8 December 2011

Attendees:

Paulos Nyirenda (.mw)
Hiro Hotta, .jp (Chair)
Siavash Shahshahani (.ir)

Apologies:

Giovanni Seppia, .eu

Staff:

Bart Boswinkel
Gabriella Schittek

- No comments to the Draft Final Report had been received at the time of the conference call. The comment period is closing on 15 December 2011.

- To clarify focal points in revising "Rules and Guidelines", discussions were held on voting procedures.

  It was clarified that one type of voting is needed to initiate processes and to start discussions. Another type of voting has a more formal nature, for example the Council- or Board Director elections.

  It was considered whether the distinction should be reflected in the bylaws, as if there is no explicit limitation stated on the non-formal votes; the ccNSO can treat these cases in whatever way they wish (the way it is currently done).

  It was agreed to clearly indicate in the final report, which part of the Rules and Guidelines are formal and less formal.

- There is currently a requirement that 50% of the total membership need to attend a meeting (either physically, or per telephone conference) in order to have a quorum. Already today, this percentage is not reached at ICANN meetings, and it was realised that this will become even harder when including IDN ccTLDs.

  It was agreed that the item needs to be revisited from a broader perspective, as it is not an issue that is only bound by the inclusion of IDN ccTLDs. It was suggested to dedicate some time to this issue at the Costa Rica meeting.

- It was also highlighted that the current requirement to request an Issue Report (10% of the membership) needs to be addressed, as it is a high threshold, which will become even higher with IDN ccTLDs included.

  It was agreed that the group will recommend a fixed number (such as 10 members), from at least two members per each geographic region (in order to

avoid that one single registry with many ccTLDs can force through an Issue Report).

It was also felt that electronic voting is preferred over voting at physical meetings, or telephone conferences.

- There is currently a safeguard in place for the ratification of Council decisions, which says that if at least 10% of the membership request a change, the decision has to be revisited. This number needs to be looked into as well.

- The Council has adopted a voluntary mechanism when selecting candidates to ICANN Board Seat 11 and 12. It is allowing the members make the selection (through an election period) and the Council then only ratifies the outcome, in the same fashion as the do at Council elections.

  It was noted that the ICANN Board election procedures might need to be changed, in order to reflect any possible changes to the Council election procedures.

- The issue was raised, that with IDN ccTLDs, two people from the same territory could become Council members.

  It was noted that the members would have agreed on the Councillors by nomination and elections and that qualification is superior to what territory the person is from. Therefore, this would not be a real issue.

  However, it was agreed to include a note in the final report that this situation could arise.

- The Secretariat is to post a doodle poll so that a date can be set for the next call, to be held at the end of January 2012.