



**Policy Development Process (PDP) Update**  
**New gTLD Subsequent Procedures**

April 2017

**UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES**

The WG has distributed a second request for community comment to solicit additional input on specific topics it is considering and encourages GAC input through Community Comment 2 (CC2).

The deadline for CC2 was initially set for 1 May 2017. The WG is considering extending this deadline following a request from the GAC to do so. The WG will be holding a [webinar](#) on 25 April 2017 to discuss and seek to make progress on the issue of geographic names at the top level. The webinar is open to the entire community.

**ISSUE**

Review and recommend possible changes or adjustments to the GNSO principles, recommendations, and implementation guidance from the 2007 Final Report on the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains, or possibly develop new policy recommendations.

**SUMMARY**

In June of 2014, the GNSO Council created the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Discussion Group, which was focused on reflecting upon the experiences gained from the 2012 New gTLD round and identifying a recommended set of subjects that should be further analyzed in an Issue Report. It is important to note that there is existing policy from the 2007 Final Report on the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains, which states that the original policy recommendations as adopted by the GNSO Council and ICANN Board have “been designed to produce a systemized and ongoing mechanism for applicants to propose new top-level domains,” meaning that those policy recommendations remain in place for subsequent rounds of the New gTLD Program unless the GNSO Council decides to modify them via a policy development process. At the ICANN53 meeting, The GNSO Council approved a motion to request that a Preliminary Issue Report be drafted by ICANN staff, basing the report on the set of deliverables developed by the Discussion Group, to further analyze issues identified and help determine if changes or adjustments are needed for subsequent new gTLD procedures.

ICANN staff completed the Preliminary Issue Report on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures, which was published for public comment on 31 August 2015, with the comment period closing on 30 October 2015. ICANN staff reviewed public comments received and adjusted the Issue Report accordingly. The Final Issue Report, along with the summary and analysis of public comments received, were submitted to the GNSO Council for its consideration on 4 December 2015 and a PDP on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures was initiated on 17 December 2015. The GNSO Council adopted the PDP WG charter during its 21 January 2016 meeting, with a call for volunteers issued on 27 January 2016. The PDP WG held its first meeting on 22 February 2016 and holds meetings on a regular basis. The PDP WG also has established four Work Track Sub Teams to address specific work items. These Sub Teams currently are meeting every two weeks.

The PDP WG is aware of efforts related to New gTLDs underway within the community, particularly the Competition, Consumer Trust & Consumer Choice Review Team; the PDP WG understands that coordination with other community efforts is needed to promote comprehensive solutions and outcomes.

#### GAC ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY STATUS



Though the PDP WG has begun its deliberations and there are members from the GAC participating, additional individuals from the GAC are always encouraged to participate in the PDP WG. In addition, the GAC will be informed of opportunities for engagement in the process, which could include providing public comments to WG deliverables, input via communiqués, and periodic requests for input from the PDP WG to the GAC and other community groups. The PDP WG made a formal request for input from the GAC prior to ICANN56 in Helsinki and will make an additional request for input in regards to the remaining subjects identified in the PDP WG's Charter following ICANN58.

At ICANN58, the leadership team announced that a face-to-face working session would be held at ICANN59 to work through substantive proposals from the community and a path forward for policy development with respect to the use of geographic terms at the top level. In preparation for the face-to-face working session, the Working Group will hold a 25 April webinar open to the entire community, which will provide a background on the history of these issues as well an opportunity to hear the variety of positions held by different members of the ICANN community. Although issues may still exist with geographic strings at the second level, the focus at this point in time is exclusively at the top level. The GAC Working Group to Examine the Protection of Geographic Names in any Future

Expansion of gTLDs has signed up to present at the the webinar and all GAC members are welcome and encouraged to participate. Please email [Geo-Names-Session@icann.org](mailto:Geo-Names-Session@icann.org) to sign up.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Archived project page for the completed Discussion Group effort <http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/inactive/2015/non-pdp-new-gtld>
- GNSO Council Resolution requesting Preliminary Issue Report <http://gnso.icann.org/en/council/resolutions#201507>
- Preliminary Issue Report on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures <https://www.icann.org/public-comments/new-gtld-subsequent-prelim-2015-08-31-en>
- Final Issue Report on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures - <http://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/new-gtlds/subsequent-procedures-final-issue-04dec15-en.pdf>
- GNSO Council Resolution initiating PDP - <http://gnso.icann.org/en/council/resolutions#201512>
- GNSO Council Resolution adopting PDP - <http://gnso.icann.org/en/council/resolutions#20160121-2>
- PDP WG Charter - <http://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/new-gtlds/subsequent-procedures-charter-21jan16-en.pdf>
- Active Project Page - <http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/new-gtld-subsequent-procedures>
- PDP WG Community Wiki - <https://community.icann.org/x/RgV1Aw>