



ICANN | GNSO

Generic Names Supporting Organization

Policy Briefing ICANN69 Edition

The GNSO Background Briefings are produced by ICANN's Policy staff supporting the GNSO. These are drafted specifically in preparation for ICANN meetings to provide the Community with concise background information on all relevant GNSO policy efforts.

For more information on the GNSO @ ICANN69:

 gnso.ICANN.org/ICANNmeeting  [@ICANN_GNSO](https://twitter.com/ICANN_GNSO)

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Welcome to ICANN69 from the GNSO Chair



Dear Colleagues:

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council and GNSO community welcome your participation in the ICANN69 Virtual Annual General Meeting (AGM). As was the case with ICANN67 and ICANN68, the AGM will take place virtually this year as a result of concerns over the spread of COVID-19. Drawing on our experience with the two previous virtual meetings, ICANN69 has been designed with a modified format to better serve online participants around the world. For the GNSO, this will mean focusing sessions on the work of the GNSO Council and ongoing policy development processes (PDPs), with additional meeting time devoted to Stakeholder Group and Constituency meetings. As ICANN69 approaches, I would like to highlight a few GNSO initiatives that will be on the agenda for the AGM as well as ongoing work that may interest you. Additional information about GNSO projects can be found in the following sections of this briefing report, which has recently been redesigned to be more concise and engaging, with the aim of better supporting your preparation for the meeting.

During ICANN69, GNSO working groups will hold sessions aimed at making progress on policy development efforts. The New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group published its draft Final Report for public comment on 20 August 2020 and looks forward to engaging with the community on its draft final recommendations and input received. The Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs PDP Working Group has completed its review of the public comments received from fifty-five (55) contributors on its Phase 1 Initial Report. The working group is now finalizing its recommendations and is expected to provide an update on its Final Report during its public sessions at ICANN69.

Many of you are closely following the work of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Registration Data, which had been in Phase 2 of its work since May 2019. The EPDP Team's Phase 2 efforts included discussion of a System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) to nonpublic gTLD registration data, as well as additional topics held over from Phase 1 of the Team's work (e.g., city field redaction, data retention). Following a detailed review and discussion of all public comments received for its Phase 2 Initial Report and Addendum Report, the EPDP Team delivered its Final Report to the GNSO Council for its consideration on 31 July 2020. During its August 2020 meeting, the GNSO Council began discussing how to consider the report, including the approach on whether to vote on the report as a package or by recommendation. A webinar on the report was held for Councilors on 3 September 2020. The Council adopted the Phase 2 Final Report during its meeting on 24 September 2020, and will submit the Final Report to the ICANN Board for its consideration. In addition, the Council is considering how to address remaining items from EPDP Phase 2 work,

including legal vs. natural persons, feasibility of unique contacts to have a uniform anonymized email address, and the WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System (ARS).

The EPDP Team is not currently planning to meet during ICANN69. Those interested in the implementation of the EPDP Phase 1 recommendations are welcome to join the session of the Implementation Review Team (IRT) as it continues to discuss the draft gTLD Registration Data Policy.

At ICANN69, the GNSO Council will hold its public and administrative meetings on Wednesday, 21 October. In the schedule you will also find GNSO meetings with the ICANN Board, the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO), and the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC). On Thursday, 22 October the Council will meet for a wrap-up of achievements and action items from ICANN69 sessions.

Two plenary sessions at ICANN69 might be of particular interest to the GNSO community: “The Domain Name Business: Everything You Want to Know, Ask, or Discuss” and “Domain Name System Abuse: Practical Solutions.” We look forward to your participation in these sessions.

Furthermore, progress continues on PDP 3.0, a GNSO Council initiative aimed at introducing incremental improvements to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the PDP working groups, as well as to empower the GNSO Council to better serve in its role as the manager of policy development processes. At this stage, many work products related to the fourteen (14) PDP 3.0 improvements have been deployed in GNSO working groups or used by the Council. The GNSO Council held a [webinar](#) on 15 September 2020 to discuss the implementation status, highlight practical examples of the PDP 3.0 work products that have been applied in ongoing GNSO working groups, and kick start the preliminary assessment of PDP 3.0’s impact. PDP 3.0 has been identified as a key component of ICANN’s Enhancing the Effectiveness of ICANN’s Multistakeholder Model effort, and the GNSO is eager to share its work and lessons learned with the broader ICANN community. An additional goal of the webinar was to help other Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees evaluate the applicability of PDP 3.0 improvements to their own internal processes and projects.

The PDP 3.0 webinar included an introduction to the [Consensus Playbook](#), a tool conceptualized by the GNSO Council and created as part of PDP 3.0, which aims to provide the community with practical tools and best practices for building consensus, bridging differences, and breaking deadlocks within ICANN processes. The Consensus Playbook, developed with community-wide applicability in mind, was produced by an external vendor drawing on engagement with leaders across the community. The Consensus Playbook serves as a valuable resource for GNSO PDP working groups

as well as other ICANN community initiatives. As a result of the widened scope of applicability of the Consensus Playbook, ICANN org staff provided its introduction during the webinar. It is also anticipated that ICANN org will lead and facilitate future educational activities related to the Consensus Playbook across the ICANN community as part of the Enhancing the Effectiveness of ICANN's Multistakeholder Model effort.

Over the last year, the GNSO Council has devoted significant effort to cataloguing the portfolio of GNSO work and assessing how that pipeline of work can be effectively managed and executed. That foundational work has helped the GNSO Council plan its work heading into ICANN69 and into the future, identifying several upcoming initiatives. Specifically, the GNSO Council:

- Created and will launch a Work Track within the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP Working Group (WG), based on the Council referral of recommendation 5 from the International Governmental Organization and International Non-Governmental Organization (IGO-INGO) Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP Working Group Final Report.
- Requested a Preliminary Issue Report on issues identified in the Transfer Policy Initial Scoping Paper, to assist in determining whether a PDP or series of PDPs should be initiated regarding changes to the Transfer Policy.
- Supported the initiation of an operational work track to address the impacts from the IDN Guidelines 4.0 upon existing registry agreements and future applicants, while considering launching a policy work track to address the impacts from the IDN variant TLD recommendations.

The Annual General Meeting marks a time of transition for the GNSO Council with seating the newly appointed Council members, as well as election of a new GNSO Chair and selection of Council Vice-Chair(s). For GNSO Council Vice-Chair Rafik Dammak and me, this AGM marks the end of our service on the GNSO leadership team and the GNSO Council. I would like to extend a special thanks to Rafik for the significant contribution he has made during his three consecutive terms as Council Vice-Chair. I am also grateful for the ongoing work and collaboration of GNSO Council Vice-Chair Pam Little, who will remain on Council for the upcoming term. Join us as we bring a productive year in the GNSO community and GNSO Council to a close and welcome the next GNSO Council members and leadership team. I look forward to seeing you all on Zoom.

Keith Drazek
GNSO Chair

ICANN69 at a Glance

The GNSO Policy Support Team has developed this briefing document to help community members prepare for ICANN69. It provides an overview of the status of GNSO PDP working groups and teams, as well as information about other GNSO policy-related activities, including PDP Implementation Review Teams (IRTs). The document includes links for additional background reading that will help you prepare for sessions and support active participation from all attendees.

Newcomers to ICANN and the GNSO may be interested in online learning opportunities that will further help them make the most of the upcoming meeting. We highly recommend taking the Get to Know the GNSO course on [ICANN Learn](#). The course will make it easier to navigate through the structure and content of this Policy Briefing with a better understanding of PDPs. All are encouraged to enroll.

Please note that any reference to meeting times in this document is provisional. Please consult the ICANN meeting schedule for the latest information.

ICANN69 Meeting Information

[Meeting Page](#)

[Schedule](#)

[Registration](#)

[General Remote Participation Information](#)

[GNSO Session Remote Participation Details](#)

[Expected Standard of Behavior](#)

GNSO Related Information

[GNSO One-stop Shop for ICANN Meeting](#)

[Project List](#)

If you have any questions about or suggestions for this Policy Briefing or GNSO policy activities, please contact us at policy-staff@ICANN.org. We look forward to a productive meeting.

GNSO Policy Development Process Infographic

The GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) governs the way in which the GNSO develops consensus policies relating to generic top-level domains. GNSO PDPs follow the process (see below) during their lifecycle, which consists of different steps, including: issue identification; issue scoping; PDP initiation; working group; GNSO Council deliberation; ICANN Board vote; and policy implementation.



In the following sections of the GNSO Policy Briefing, the respective steps which the PDP working groups and implementation review teams have reached are noted.

For more details about the steps in PDPs, see the following materials:

- [ICANN Bylaws, Annex A](#)
- [Detailed Infographic of GNSO PDP](#)
- [PDP Manual](#)

Expedited Policy Development Process: Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data - Phase 2

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN69 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

Under its current work plan, the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Team is not planning to meet during ICANN69.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

On 17 May 2018, the ICANN Board approved the Temporary Specification for generic top-level domain (gTLD) Registration Data to allow contracted parties to comply with existing ICANN contractual requirements while also complying with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This Board action triggered the GNSO Council initiation of the PDP on 19 July 2018. The PDP was conducted in two phases: Phase 1 aimed to confirm, or not, the Temporary Specification by 25 May 2019; Phase 2 discussed, among other elements, a standardized access model to nonpublic registration data. [Learn More](#)

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

Following a careful review of all public comments received on its [Initial Report](#) and [Addendum Report](#), the EPDP Team submitted its [Phase 2 Final Report](#) to the GNSO Council on 31 July 2020. A [webinar](#) on the Final Report was held for Councilors on 3 September 2020.

The Final Report sets out the EPDP Team's recommendations for a System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) to nonpublic gTLD registration data as well as recommendations and conclusions for the so-called "Priority 2" topics.

The 18 SSAD-related policy recommendations broadly address, among others, the following areas:

- Accreditation of SSAD requestors, including governmental entities
- Required criteria and content of SSAD requests
- Response requirements
- Required Service Level Agreements (SLAs)



- Automation of SSAD processing
- Terms and conditions of SSAD
- Logging, auditing, and reporting requirements
- Implementation of a GNSO Standing Committee, which is a committee charged with evaluating SSAD operational issues and proposing recommendations for improvement to the GNSO Council

It is important to note that the EPDP Team considers the 18 SSAD-related recommendations as interdependent, and, as a result, the team recommends that these recommendations be considered as one package by the GNSO Council and subsequently the ICANN Board.

The EPDP Team also put forward four Priority 2 recommendations related to the following topics:

- Display of information of affiliated privacy/proxy providers
- City field
- Data retention
- Purpose 2

The GNSO Council approved the Phase 2 Final Report during its meeting on 24 September 2020 and achieved the required GNSO supermajority threshold. As part of its approval, the GNSO Council agreed to request a consultation with the ICANN Board to discuss the financial sustainability of SSAD and some of the concerns expressed within the different minority statements, including whether a further cost-benefit analysis should be conducted before the ICANN Board considers all SSAD-related recommendations for adoption.

During the same meeting, the GNSO Council also considered [next steps](#) in relation to the remaining Priority 2 issues, namely legal vs. natural, the feasibility of unique contacts to have a uniform anonymized email address, and data accuracy. The GNSO Council is expected to confirm how to proceed during its October 2020 meeting. However, general support was expressed for the proposed immediate actions and subsequent next steps as outlined in the document pertaining to the next steps.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The GNSO Council will submit the GNSO Council Recommendations Report pertaining to the EPDP Phase 2 final recommendations to the ICANN Board for its consideration, together with a request to commence the proposed consultation to discuss the financial sustainability of SSAD and some of the concerns as part of the ICANN Board's process to consider the recommendations.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

As part of the ICANN Board's consideration of the EPDP Phase 2 recommendations, a further public comment forum is expected to be held. Anyone interested is invited to provide their input to help inform the Board's consideration of the recommendations. Please monitor the Public Comment Opportunities [web page](#) on icann.org for further details.

MORE INFORMATION

- [EPDP webpage](#)
- [EPDP workspace](#)

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Caitlin Tubergen, Marika Konings (consultant), Berry Cobb (consultant)

Policy Development Process: New Generic Top-Level Domain Subsequent Procedures

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN69 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group is set to meet for two sessions during the ICANN69 Community Days week, on Wednesday, 14 October 2020 at 14:00-15:30 and 16:00-17:00 Hamburg time. The working group also expects to meet at its normally rotating times during the Prep Week (5-8 October 2020) and during the Plenary session week (19-22 October 2020). The working group will begin reviewing public comments received to its draft Final Report and determine whether changes may be needed.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This PDP aims to determine what, if any, changes need to be made to the existing policy recommendations from the 2007 [Final Report](#) on the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains. [Learn More](#)

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The working group started its work on 22 February 2016 and over the course of several years, has convened several subgroups and undertaken extensive deliberations on the long list of topics in this working group's charter. This work has included numerous opportunities for community input, including the publication of its [Initial Report](#) for public comment on 3 July 2018, a [Supplemental Initial Report](#) on October 2018, and an [additional report](#) from the PDP's Work Track 5, devoted solely to the issue of geographic names at the top-level.

The working group reviewed all of the community input received in detail and has spent the majority of 2020 refining its draft final recommendations to be included in its [draft Final Report](#), which was published for public comment on 20 August 2020. This report included draft final recommendations and other outputs, seeking to focus attention on aspects that have changed substantially since the Initial Reports.

To aid in the ICANN community's review and understanding of the draft Final Report, the working group's co-chairs held a [webinar](#) on 14 September 2020 to present on selected topics, provide additional context, and answer the audience's questions.



WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

After the closing of the public comment period for its draft Final Report on 30 September 2020, the working group began turning its attention to evaluating input received and making adjustments as necessary. The working group is expected to deliver its Final Report to the GNSO Council no later than the end of December 2020.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

While this working group is open to all participants, as the working group has already been in operation for a substantial amount of time and is expected to conclude its work in just a few months in 2020, newcomers must catch up on the discussions to date and not reopen previously closed topics unless new information is presented. As such, it may not be practical to join the working group at this stage. Nevertheless, you may join as either a member (with full posting rights to the mailing list and the ability to participate in all meetings) or as an observer (with read-only status for the mailing list). If you are interested in joining, please email gns0-secs@icann.org.

MORE INFORMATION

- [PDP webpage](#)
- [PDP workspace](#)

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Steve Chan, Emily Barabas, Julie Hedlund

Policy Development Process: Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All Generic Top-Level Domains

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN69 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Review of All Rights Mechanisms (RPMs) in All Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group will be holding two open meetings on Tuesday, 13 October 2020 at 14:00-15:30 and 16:00-17:00 Hamburg time. Please check the ICANN69 meeting schedule for confirmed times. The working group is expected to start reviewing its draft Final Report. All community members are welcome to attend the open sessions.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This PDP is being conducted in two phases. Phase 1 reviews all the RPMs applicable to gTLDs launched under the 2012 New gTLD Program. These RPMs include: Trademark Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedure (TM-PDDRP); Trademark Clearinghouse (TMCH); Sunrise and Trademark Claims services that are offered through the TMCH; and the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) dispute resolution procedure. Phase 2 will focus on reviewing the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP), which has been an ICANN Consensus Policy since 1999. [Learn More](#)

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council initiated the PDP on 18 February 2016 and chartered the working group in March 2016.

The working group began its Phase 1 work with reviewing the TM-PDDRP, which was completed in late 2016. From October 2018 to October 2019, the working group sequentially completed its initial review of the URS dispute resolution procedure, Sunrise and Trademark Claims services, and the structure and scope of the TMCH.



The working group published its Phase 1 Initial Report on 18 March 2020 for [Public Comment](#), which was closed on 4 May 2020, a one-week extension from the initially planned closing date in the backdrop of the global COVID-19 pandemic. From late May to September 2020, the working group reviewed the public comments received from fifty-five (55) contributors in order to finalize its Phase 1 recommendations. Two sub teams were formed to conduct concurrent analysis of the extensive comments to the preliminary recommendations, using a [Public Comment review tool](#) developed by support staff. In parallel, the working group reviewed the public comments for individually submitted proposals that did not rise to the level of becoming preliminary recommendations, as well as general input for its Initial Report.

Following the completion of public comment review, the working group focused on developing its final recommendations by taking into account the input received. In addition, the working group also discussed recommendations developed by the Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team (CCT-RT), and analyzed the relevant sections in the Wave 1 Report of the Expedited PDP (EPDP) on a Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Phase 1 Recommendation #27. The results of the working group's review of these efforts are reflected in its draft final recommendations.

Due to the extended public comment period and the additional time needed to deliberate on the extensive input received, the working group submitted a [Project Change Request](#) to the GNSO Council, requesting approval of a revised timeline to submit its Final Report by the end of November 2020 (a 40-day extension from its previous timeline approved by the Council). During its meeting on 24 September 2020, the GNSO Council approved the working group's Project Change Request.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

At ICANN69, the working group is expected to start reviewing its draft Final Report. The working group aims to deliver its Final Report on Phase 1 recommendations to the GNSO Council for consideration in late-November 2020. If approved by the GNSO Council, the Final Report will be forwarded to the ICANN Board of Directors for approval as an ICANN Consensus Policy.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

While this working group is open to all participants, as the working group has already been in operation for a substantial amount of time and is expected to conclude its work in just a few months in 2020, newcomers must catch up on the discussions to date and not reopen previously closed topics unless new information is presented. As such, it may not be practical to join the working group at this stage. Nevertheless, you may join as either a member (with full posting rights to the mailing list and the ability to participate in all meetings) or as an observer (with read-only status for the mailing list). If you are interested in joining, please email gnso-secs@icann.org.

MORE INFORMATION

- [PDP webpage](#)
- [PDP workspace](#)

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Mary Wong, Julie Hedlund, Ariel Liang

Policy Development Process: IGO-INGO to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN69 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The GNSO Council has voted to adopt recommendations 1-4 of the International Governmental Organization and International Non-Governmental Organization (IGO-INGO) Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms Policy Development Process Final Report, but elected to refer recommendation 5 to the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs Policy Development Process (PDP). In January 2020, the GNSO Council adopted an Addendum to the RPMs charter to integrate consideration of recommendation 5. This new work track is in its initiation phase and will not be meeting at ICANN69.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The GNSO Council tasked the working group to consider whether the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) and the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) dispute resolution procedure should be modified to address the needs of International Governmental Organizations (IGOs) and International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs), or if a separate, narrowly tailored dispute resolution procedure should be developed to apply only to IGOs and INGOs. [Learn More](#)

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The original and concluded PDP working group submitted its Final Report to the GNSO Council on 9 July 2018. The GNSO Council resolved to accept the Final Report on 19 July 2018, though it did not take final action on the report at that time. The Council noted that it would seek to consider the topic of curative rights protections for IGOs in the broader context of the appropriate overall scope of protection for all IGO identifiers.

In the ensuing period of time, the GNSO Council considered how it would proceed with the Final Report, held a question and answer webinar to review the recommendations, and debated about the best path forward through 2018 and early 2019.

Based on discussions and consultation with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), the Council believed that it had thoroughly considered the available options. On 18 April 2019, the Council resolved to approve recommendations 1-4 of the Final



Report and refer recommendation 5 to be considered by the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP as part of its Phase 2 work.

On 16 May 2019, the GNSO Council confirmed the transmission of the Recommendations Report (relating to recommendations 1-4) to the ICANN Board. Shortly afterward, the GAC sent [a letter](#) to the GNSO Council, noting that the approval of recommendations 1-4 and referring recommendation 5 to the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP is inconsistent with GAC Advice. ICANN organization conducted a [Public Comment](#) consultation process for recommendations 1-4 from 11 July to 20 August 2019.

Separately, a small team of GNSO Councilors met with a team of GAC members at both ICANN65 and ICANN66 in 2019 to discuss possible next steps for recommendation 5. The GNSO Council agreed to prepare a draft Addendum to the charter for the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP and consult with the GAC prior to adoption. After engaging in dialogue with the GAC and IGOs, the GNSO Council adopted the [Addendum](#) to the charter in January of 2020 to initiate a separate IGO work track.

The GNSO Council has prepared an Expression of Interest document for the IGO Work Track Chair and a call for volunteers for the various community groups to assign members. However, circulating these two documents has been deferred due to the GNSO Council's concerns about community capacity to initiate new substantive work.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The ICANN Board is now considering recommendations 1-4, taking into account public comments received from the public consultation process.

With respect to recommendation 5, the GNSO Council believes that it is timely to initiate the work track focusing on the deliberation of IGO issues, starting with the issuance of the call for members and observers and conducting an Expressions of Interest process to identify a single work track chair. As agreed on the [consent agenda](#) for its 24 September 2020 meeting, the GNSO Council supported the initiation of both processes.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

The working group has concluded its Final Report and the GNSO Council has taken action on the recommendations. Therefore, the working group is no longer meeting at this stage for recommendations 1-4.

In respect to recommendation 5, interested parties should coordinate with their respective Stakeholder Group (SG), Constituency, Supporting Organization (SO), or Advisory Committee (AC) to respond to the call for members and observers for the IGO work track.

MORE INFORMATION

- [PDP webpage](#)
- [PDP workspace](#)

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Mary Wong, Steve Chan

Policy Implementation Update

Implementation review teams (IRTs) are convened to assist ICANN org in developing the implementation details for the Board-approved policy developed in GNSO PDP working groups. This is to ensure that the implementation conforms to the intent of the policy recommendations (as per IRT Principles & Guidelines).

[Learn More](#)

Registration Data Policy for gTLDs

(EPDP PHASE 1 IMPLEMENTATION)

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) will conduct one working session to plan for the Stage 2 policy at ICANN69, on Wednesday, 14 October 2020 at 17:00-18:30 Hamburg time. Please check the ICANN69 meeting schedule for confirmed times.

Three stages of the policy implementation were designed in advance of the Board resolution

- Stage 1: Effective 20 May 2019, contracted parties must continue to implement measures consistent with the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data, as adopted by the Board on 17 May 2018.
- Stage 2: This stage will begin after the ICANN organization publishes a Registration Data Policy as a Consensus Policy and formally notifies the contracted parties. During this stage, contracted parties may implement the Interim Policy, the Registration Data Policy, or elements of both as they prepare for the effective date of the Registration Data Policy. The timing of this milestone is to be determined.
- Stage 3: Contracted parties must comply with the Registration Data Policy as of its effective date, which the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Team on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data recommended to be 29 February 2020.

The Stage 1 interim Consensus Policy named [Interim Registration Data Policy for gTLDs](#) was published on 17 May 2019.



The implementation team is now working on the implementation plan for Stage 2. The process steps include drafting the complete gTLD Registration Data Policy and agreeing on a timeline that can be shared for public comment (including the anticipated implementation time for the contracted parties). The IRT has been focusing efforts on:

- deliberations to resolve conflicting interpretations of some of the recommendations
- evaluation of the requirements set by the policy language for technical feasibility
- projection of the scope and time for the tasks to be implemented
- assessment of the critical path to define a realistic implementation timeline

When the implementation plan is produced, it will be published for public comment.

This IRT is open to all to join. You may join as either a member (with full posting rights to the mailing list and the ability to participate in all meetings) or as an observer (with read-only status for the mailing list). If you are interested in joining, please follow the instructions in the “[call for IRT](#)” announcement. The IRT meets every other week via teleconference and in person at ICANN Public Meetings.

MORE INFORMATION

- [EPDP Phase 1 background](#)
- [IRT webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Dennis Chang

The following Implementation Review Teams (IRTs) do not plan to meet at ICANN69

Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues

The IRT for the [policy recommendations](#) developed by the Privacy Proxy Services Accreditation Issues (PPSAI) Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group began meeting in October 2016 and has reviewed the draft Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) and other associated program materials in preparation for the public comment phase.

On **04 March 2019**, ICANN org wrote to the GNSO Council, suggesting to wait before proceeding to public comment and implementation of the PPSAI recommendations until the completion of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data. The GNSO Council deferred the decision on this issue to ICANN org in a [message](#) on 30 April 2018. In its [response](#) on 5 September 2019, ICANN org confirmed that implementation work would remain paused pending the resolution of EPDP Phase 2.

Both phases of the EPDP are now complete, and ICANN org is reviewing the impact of the EPDP recommendations on existing policies and procedures, including the PPSAI recommendations, to help determine next steps.

MORE INFORMATION

- [PDP background](#)
- [IRT webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Cyrus Jamnejad



Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information

The ICANN Board **adopted** the recommendations of the PDP working group in September 2015. Since commencing implementation work in July 2016, the IRT and Global Domains and Strategy (GDS) have produced a **[preliminary policy document](#)**. Due to complexities emerging from the Implementation Review Team (IRT)’s discussions and work in other areas related to registration data directory services (RDDS)—in particular the **[Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Expedited Policy Development Process](#)** (EPDP)—the implementation’s projected announcement and effective dates are to be determined.

Given the implementation’s relationship to the evolution of registration data policies and procedures, the PDP working group’s Recommendations are being assessed per Recommendation 27 of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Phase 1 Team’s **[Final Report](#)** to ensure policy and implementation consistency across the many work streams in this area.

This IRT is open to all participants. You may join as either a member (with full posting rights to the mailing list and the ability to participate in all meetings) or as an observer (with read-only status for the mailing list). If you are interested in joining, please contact GNSO Secretariat at **gnso-secs@icann.org**.

MORE INFORMATION

- **[PDP background](#)**
- **[IRT webpage](#)**
- **[IRT workspace](#)**

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Brian Aitchison



Protection of IGO and INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs

On 16 January 2018, the [implementation](#) of the Consensus Policy for the Protection of Certain Specific International Governmental Organization (IGO) and International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Identifiers for All gTLDs was published. As of 1 August 2018, implementation has been completed for the portion of the policy that provides protection by reserving full names for certain specific names of IGOs, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement (RCRC). For INGOs, the implementation period will be 12 months from the release of the INGO Claims Systems Specification which is currently under development by the ICANN organization.

In January 2019, the ICANN Board [adopted](#) the policy recommendation proposed by the Reconvened PDP Working Group on the Protections of the Specific Red Cross Red Crescent Names in All gTLDs. After the [Public Comment](#), the [consensus policy language](#) was revised and published in February 2020. The implementation was completed by 1 August 2020, which resulted in changing the [reserved Domain Name System \(DNS\) Labels](#) from 700 to over 7,000.

The INGO Claims System implementation is on hold at this point in consideration of potential additional requirements that could be combined to create this new system. ICANN Org is consulting with the Implementation Review Team (IRT) on the timing of the restart.

If you are interested in joining the IRT, please contact the GNSO Secretariat at gns0-secs@icann.org.

MORE INFORMATION

- [PDP background](#)
- [IRT webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Dennis Chang



Other GNSO Council Projects

Between ICANN68 and ICANN69, the GNSO Council has also focused on the following policy work in addition to PDPs.

Internationalized Domain Names

There is currently no solution available for managing Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) variant gTLDs and as such, the ICANN Board [requested](#) that the GNSO develop policy as it relates to defining and managing IDN variant gTLDs for current gTLDs as well as for future gTLD applications. The ICANN Board also requested that the GNSO coordinates with the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) to ensure a consistent solution is developed for IDN variant gTLDs and IDN variant ccTLDs.

The GNSO Council established a scoping team to study the full extent of the impacts from both the IDN [variant TLD Recommendations](#) and the [IDN Guidelines](#) upon existing registry agreements, registrar agreements and future applicants. Most of the scoping team came to agreement on recommending two separate but interconnected work tracks to carry out the GNSO policy work related to IDNs:

- Operational Work Track: a Contracted Parties team working directly the ICANN org, focused on IDN Implementation Guidelines v.4.0 operational issues.
- Policy Work Track: a Policy Development Process (PDP) or an Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) team focused on the policy development of the definition and management of IDN variant TLDs.

The scoping team also recommended that the GNSO Council send at least one liaison with alternate(s) to monitor the ccNSO PDP4 focused on IDN issues, once it has commenced.

The scoping team delivered its [Final Report](#) to the GNSO Council on 17 January 2020. The GNSO Council has considered the Final Report and determined that it supports initiating the Operational Work Track, as agreed on the [consent agenda](#) for its 20 August 2020 meeting. In considering next steps and timing for the Policy Work Track, the GNSO Council will also take into account overall capacity to initiate new work.

MORE INFORMATION

- [Scoping Team workspace](#)

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Steve Chan, Ariel Liang

Transfer Policy Review

Following receipt and review of ICANN org's [Transfer Policy Status Report \(TPSR\)](#), the GNSO Council agreed to establish a Transfer Policy Review Scoping Team during its [meeting](#) on 19 September 2019. The scoping team is tasked with advising the GNSO Council on how to approach further policy work, if any, on the Transfer Policy. Specifically, the scoping team is tasked with providing recommendations on the:

- approach to the review (e.g., by initiating a new PDP)
- composition of the review team or PDP working group
- scope of the review and future policy work related to the Transfer Policy

The scoping team met regularly between December 2019 and March 2020 and provided its [Initial Scoping Paper](#) to the GNSO Council after ICANN67.

The scoping team recommended the GNSO Council initiate a PDP, or series of PDPs, as applicable, for policy work on the scoping team's identified issues with the Transfer Policy. The scoping team also recommended that the GNSO Council instruct ICANN Policy staff to draft an Issues Report, outlining, et al., the issues described in its Initial Scoping Paper.

On 23 June 2020, the GNSO Council approved a motion requesting a Preliminary Issue Report for delivery as expeditiously as possible on the issues identified in the Initial Scoping Paper to assist in determining whether a PDP or series of PDPs should be initiated regarding changes to the Transfer Policy. A public comment forum is expected to be held for the Preliminary Issue Report once completed. Please monitor the Public Comment Opportunities [web page](#) on icann.org for further details.

MORE INFORMATION

- [Scoping Team workspace](#)

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Caitlin Tubergen, Emily Barabas

New Generic Top-Level Domains Auction Proceeds Cross-Community Working Group

This Cross-Community Working Group (CCWG) is not a GNSO PDP working group. The GNSO is one of its chartering organizations; GNSO members are actively involved in this CCWG.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN69 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Cross-Community Working Group (CCWG) delivered its Final Report to the Chartering Organizations and the ICANN Board and will not be meeting during ICANN69.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

All ICANN SOs and ACs chartered the CCWG to propose a mechanism to allocate the New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Auction Proceeds, which have been derived from auctions to resolve the competition sets between identical or similar terms (strings) for new gTLDs, an issue known as string contention. [Learn More](#)

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

On 29 May 2020, the CCWG submitted its [Final Report](#) to the Chartering Organizations. Following adoption of the Final Report by all of the Chartering Organizations, the CCWG submitted the Final Report to the ICANN Board for its consideration on 14 September 2020. The Final Report sets out the core issues that the CCWG addressed in carrying out its charter since its inception in January 2017. It includes responses to questions posed in the CCWG's charter and a series of recommendations, as well as guidance to be considered in the implementation phase. The Final Report also records the CCWG's discussions regarding options around a mechanism(s) to allocate the new gTLD Auction Proceeds in accordance with ICANN's mission and Bylaws.

The Final Report discusses three possible mechanisms that the CCWG considered for allocation of auction proceeds:

- Mechanism A: An internal department dedicated to the allocation of auction proceeds is created within the ICANN organization.
- Mechanism B: An internal department dedicated to the allocation of auction proceeds is created within the ICANN organization which collaborates with an existing non-profit.

- Mechanism C: A new charitable structure (ICANN Foundation) is created which is functionally separate from ICANN org, which would be responsible for the allocation of auction proceeds.

The Final Report includes the following recommendation regarding the mechanisms:

“The CCWG recommends that the Board select either mechanism A or mechanism B for the allocation of auction proceeds, taking into account the preference expressed by CCWG members for mechanism A.

As part of its selection process, the ICANN Board is expected to apply the criteria outlined by the CCWG [...] for which additional internal and/or external input may be required (such as providing a reliable cost estimate). The ICANN Board is expected to share the outcome of its consideration with the CCWG Chartering Organizations and, if deemed necessary, involve the Chartering Organizations and/or CCWG implementation team in any deliberations that would benefit from Chartering Organization and/or CCWG implementation team input.”

Other recommendations in the report focus on the following subjects:

- The establishment of an Independent Projects Evaluation Panel to consider and select projects to receive funding, regardless of the mechanism chosen.
- Objectives of fund allocation.
- Safeguards, conflict of interest provisions, and auditing requirements.
- Existing ICANN accountability mechanisms cannot be used to challenge decisions on individual applications.
- Timeframe for the disbursement of funds and the staging of disbursement in “tranches.”
- Review of the mechanism.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

The ICANN Board will consider the CCWG’s Final Report and recommendations.

MORE INFORMATION

- [CCWG background](#)
- [CCWG workspace](#)

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Emily Barabas, Joke Braeken (ccNSO), Marika Konings (consultant)

Generic Names Supporting Organization Schedule for ICANN69

Please confirm against the [final schedule](#) as changes may occur. For remote participation details, please check this [wiki page](#) created by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Support Team. Live audio streaming, recording, and transcripts will become available after meetings. Unless specified with the symbol [C], sessions published in this table are open to all. At time of publishing, virtual meeting rooms have not yet been finalized, please see the final schedule for further information.

DATE	MEETING
Tuesday, 13 October 2020	Joint Meeting: Contracted Party House (CPH) & Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG)
	Joint Meeting: Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) Council & GNSO Council
	Joint Meeting: GNSO Council & ICANN Board
	Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) Membership Meeting
	Brand Registry Group Community Session: dotBrand Trends
	Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs PDP Working Group)
	Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency (ISPCP) Open Meeting (Session 1 of 2)
Wednesday, 14 October 2020	GeoTLD Group Annual General Meeting
	GeoTLD Group Sharing Session
	ISPCP Open Meeting (Session 2 of 2)
	New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group
	Non-Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC) Open Meeting

DATE	MEETING
Thursday, 15 October 2020	Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR) Discussion Group
	GNSO Policy Topic
	Joint Meeting: NCSG & ICANN Board
	Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC) Open Session
	CPH TechOps Meeting
	CPH Membership Meeting
	NCSG Policy Committee Meeting
	Joint Meeting: Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) & ICANN Board
	Commercial Business Users Constituency (BC) Open Meeting
	Joint Meeting: CPH & ICANN Board
	Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency (NPOC) Open Meeting
Monday, 19 October 2020	NCSG Open Meeting
Tuesday, 20 October 2020	Joint Meeting: GNSO Council & Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council
	Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) Membership Meeting
Wednesday, 21 October 2020	GNSO Council Meeting - Part I
	GNSO Council Meeting - Part II (Admin Meeting)
	CSG Open Meeting
Thursday, 22 October 2020	GNSO Council Wrap-Up

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