Other GNSO Council Project Update

Between ICANN69 and ICANN70, the GNSO Council has also focused on the following policy work in addition to PDPs.

Internationalized Domain Names

In August 2020, following the adoption of the Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) Scoping Team **Final Report**, the GNSO Council supported the initiation of an operational work track to address the impacts from the **IDN Implementation Guidelines 4.0** upon existing registry agreements and future applicants. A Contracted Parties House (CPH) team has been tasked to determine what specific amendments may be required for the guidelines to allow them to continue toward ICANN Board consideration and adoption. To achieve this goal, the CPH team is in the process of developing suggested revisions to the guidelines and to the extent that it is necessary, identifying elements that should be removed for resolution in policy development instead. The CPH team is expected to submit its outputs for consideration by the original and concluded IDN Guidelines Working Group, which developed the IDN Implementation Guidelines 4.0. Once the CPH and the IDN Guidelines Working Group are in alignment, this should pave the way for the guidelines to return to the queue for ICANN Board adoption.

In October 2020, the GNSO Council kicked off efforts related to the policy work track, which is to focus on the definition and management of IDN variant TLDs. In November 2020, the Council **launched** a call for volunteers within the GNSO community for a drafting team to develop a draft charter, as well as an initiation request for an Expedited PDP (EPDP) on IDNs. In developing the EPDP charter, the drafting team is expected to consider existing policy work related to the IDN variant TLD definition and management, such as the **IDN Variant TLD Implementation Staff Paper**, **recommendations for the Technical Utilization of the Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR)**, and IDN related recommendations from the GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP. Furthermore, the drafting team is expected to apply the **revised GNSO Working Group Charter Template**, a work product of the PDP 3.0 initiative. Since its establishment in December 2020, the drafting team has been meeting on a regular basis, with the aim to submit its deliverables for GNSO Council's review in Q2 2021.

Furthermore, to fulfill ICANN Board's request 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, in January 2021 the GNSO Council appointed a liaison to the ccPDP4 on the Selection and Deselection of IDN ccTLD Strings

MORE INFORMATION

- **Drafting Team workspace**

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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 was 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 provided its **Initial Scoping Paper** to the GNSO Council in April 2020. It 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. It 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 requested a Preliminary Issue Report on the issues identified in the Initial Scoping Paper. The **Preliminary Issue Report** was published for **public comment** on 12 October 2020. The report was updated following the public comment period and submitted as a **Final Issue Report** to the GNSO Council on 12 January 2021.

On 18 February 2021, the GNSO Council **initiated** a two-phase PDP to review the Transfer Policy. This PDP is tasked to determine if changes to the policy are needed to improve the ease, security, and efficacy of inter-registrar and inter-registrant transfers. As recommended in the Final Issue Report, this PDP is to address the following topics in sequence: Form of Authorization and AuthInfo Codes (Phase 1a); change of registrant (Phase 1b); transfer emergency action contact and reversing inter-registrar transfers, Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy, NACKing transfers, and ICANN-approved transfers (Phase 2). As a next step, the GNSO Council will finalize and approve the charter for this PDP.

MORE INFORMATION

▬ **Transfer Policy PDP Final Issue Report**

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