

ICANN | GNSO

Generic Names Supporting Organization

PDP Update

November 2015

The PDP Updates are one-page documents that are prepared by ICANN staff to inform the GAC and other interested parties about potential opportunities to engage in and contribute to on-going GNSO PDP efforts. They are published on a regular basis and translations of these can be found on the [GAC website](#). Please, also refer to our [Policy Briefings](#) for information on these and other GNSO activities.

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ICANN | GNSO

Generic Names Supporting Organization

Policy Development Process Update

New gTLD Subsequent Procedures

November 2015

Issue

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](#).

Upcoming important dates

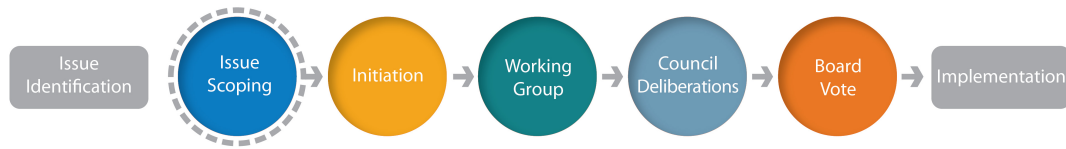
The public comment period for the [Preliminary Issue Report on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures](#) closed on 30 October 2015. The GNSO Council may consider the Final Issue Report in December, where a PDP could be initiated.

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 has “been designed to produce a systemized and ongoing mechanisms 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 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 will review public comments received and adjust the Issue Report accordingly. The Final Issue Report, along with the summary and analysis of public comment received, will be submitted to the GNSO Council for its consideration in possibly initiating a PDP on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures.

Engagement Opportunity Status



The public comment period for the Preliminary Issue Report was open through 30 October 2015 and the GAC submitted as part of the Quick Look Mechanism its comments for consideration. If a PDP is initiated, the GAC will be informed of the opportunities for engagement in the process.

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>

Policy Development Process Update

Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs (PDP)

November 2015

Upcoming important dates

The Preliminary Issue Report is open for public comment until 30 November 2015.

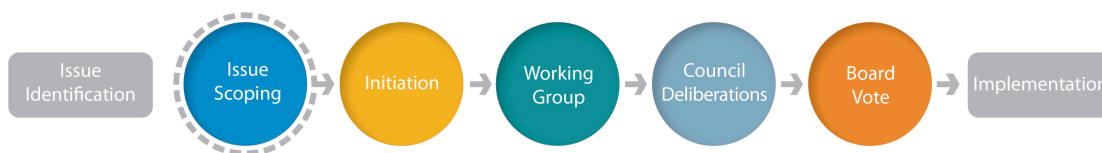
Summary

The 'rights protection mechanisms' (RPMs) in this Preliminary Issue Report are concerned with those policies and processes that are aimed at combatting cyber-squatting and providing workable mechanisms for trademark owners to either prevent or remedy certain illegitimate uses of their trademarks at the second level of generic top level domains (gTLDs). The most used of these is the *Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy* (UDRP) that has been an ICANN Consensus Policy since 1999. A number of additional RPMs were developed subsequently to supplement the UDRP as part of the New gTLD Program: the Trademark Clearinghouse (TMCH), the Sunrise and Trademark Claims service periods, the Uniform Rapid Suspension procedure (URS), and the Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedures (PDDRs). Due to some ongoing and potentially overlapping work issues (e.g. the GAC-requested TMCH Review and the new Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Protection Review mandated by ICANN's Affirmation of Commitments with the US government - see Report for details), the Preliminary Issue Report outlines three possible scenarios on how to proceed for which ICANN staff seeks community input:

1. Launch a PDP to review all RPMs in all gTLDs;
2. Launch a PDP but include a mandatory review requirement to allow the GNSO to adjust its timeline and Work Plan (if needed) as soon as CCT Review results are available; or
3. Conduct a PDP review of all RPMs in two phases, with the first phase being only a review of the new gTLD RPMs and then proceeding with a review of the UDRP taking into account the results of the work in the first phase.

Staff also invites the community to submit alternatives to these three proposals on how to proceed.

Early Engagement Summary



Submission to the Public Comment forum can be made until 30 November 2015.

Additional Information

- Preliminary Issue Report <http://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/new-gtlds/rpm-prelim-issue-09oct15-en.pdf>
- Public Comment Forum <https://www.icann.org/public-comments/rpm-prelim-issue-2015-10-09-en>

Policy Development Process Update

Next Generation Registration Directory Services to Replace WHOIS

November 2015

Upcoming important dates

GNSO Council consideration of the Charter for the PDP Working Group, following publication of the [Final Issue Report](#) following the closing of the [public comment forum](#) on Preliminary Issue Report on 6 September 2015.

Summary

In 2012, in response to the recommendations of the first WHOIS Review Team, the Board adopted a two-prong approach that simultaneously directed ICANN to (1) implement improvements to the current WHOIS system based on the [Action Plan](#) that was based on the recommendations of the WHOIS Review Team, and (2) launch a new effort, achieved through the creation of the Expert Working Group (EWG), to focus on the purpose and provision of gTLD directory services, to serve as the foundation of a Board-initiated GNSO policy development process (PDP).

The Expert Working Group's [Final Report](#) contains a proposed model and detailed principles to serve as the foundation for a PDP to support the creation of the next generation registration directory services to replace WHOIS. This [Final Report](#) contains over 160 pages of complex principles and recommendations to be considered in the GNSO PDP. In order to effectively manage the PDP on such a large scale, an informal group of Board members and GNSO councilors collaborated to develop the [framework](#) that was approved by the ICANN Board on 26 April 2015. As a result, the Board reconfirmed its request for a Board-initiated GNSO policy development process to define the purpose of collecting, maintaining and providing access to gTLD registration data, and consider safeguards for protecting data, using the recommendations in the EWG [Final Report](#) as an input to, and, if appropriate, as the foundation for a new gTLD policy. The [Preliminary Issue Report](#) was posted for public comment on 13 July 2015. The public comment forum closed on 6 September, with 13 submissions received, including input from the GAC. The [Final Issue Report](#) was submitted to the GNSO Council on 7 October 2015.

Engagement Opportunity Status



As per the GAC-GNSO Consultation Group recommendations concerning issue scoping, [notification](#) was sent to the GAC to allow the GAC to provide input on the Preliminary Issue Report through the

GAC quick look mechanism as well as any other input that may be submitted in response to the public comment forum. Input from the GAC quick look mechanism was received on 9 July and was factored in as part of the development of the Final Issue Report. Following the adoption of the charter for the PDP Working Group, a call for volunteers will be distributed to form the PDP Working Group.

Additional Information

- Final Issue Report <http://whois.icann.org/sites/default/files/files/final-issue-report-next-generation-rds-07oct15-en.pdf>
- Preliminary Issue Report <http://whois.icann.org/sites/default/files/files/rds-prelim-issue-13jul15-en.pdf>
- Public Comment Forum <https://www.icann.org/public-comments/rds-prelim-issue-2015-07-13-en>
- Board Resolution <https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2015-04-26-en#1.f>

Policy Development Process Update

Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues in relation to the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement and the Development of a Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Program by ICANN

November 2015

Upcoming Important Dates

The Working Group has completed its review of all public comments received to its Initial Report. It intends to publish its Final Report before the end of the year.

Summary

The Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) is the contract that governs the relationship between ICANN and its accredited registrars (a directory of accredited registrars can be found at <http://www.internic.net/regist.html>). Its provisions also may have impacts on registrants and other third parties involved in the domain name system. In June 2013, the ICANN Board approved a new 2013 RAA (the provisions of which can be found at <http://www.icann.org/en/resources/registrars/raa/approved-with-specs-27jun13-en.pdf>). In initiating negotiations for the 2013 RAA between ICANN and the Registrars Stakeholder Group in October 2011, the ICANN Board had also requested an Issue Report from the GNSO that, upon the conclusion of the RAA negotiations, would start a GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) to address remaining issues not dealt with in the RAA negotiations that would be suited to a PDP. The GNSO Council approved the charter for this effort at its meeting on 31 October 2013 and a Working Group was formed.

The WG published its Initial Report for public comment on 5 May: <https://www.icann.org/public-comments/ppsai-initial-2015-05-05-en..> Due to the unusually large volume of comments received (including over 11,000 public comments and almost 150 survey responses), the WG extended its timeline in order to carefully and thoroughly consider all the input received as it prepares its Final Report. Its current aim is to submit its Final Report to the GNSO Council by end-2015.

Engagement Opportunity Status



Additional Information

- WG Charter <http://gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/raa-pp-charter-22oct13-en.pdf>
- WG Workspace <https://community.icann.org/x/9iCfAg>
- WG Initial Report <http://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/raa/ppsai-initial-05may15-en.pdf> (please refer to the Public Comment Forum for links to the Executive Summary, available in all six UN languages)
- Staff Report of public comments <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/report-comments-ppsai-initial-11sep15-en.pdf>

Policy Development Process (PDP) Update

IGO & INGO Access to the Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms of the UDRP & URS

November 2015

Upcoming Important Dates

The WG continues to discuss the issue of IGO immunity and welcomes further engagement with the GAC. It has requested ICANN to engage the services of an independent external legal expert to provide an opinion on the current state of international law as regards jurisdictional immunity for IGOs. It is expecting an updated proposal from the IGO “small group” in order to proceed further with its work. As a result, the WG has extended its timeline to continue beyond ICANN54.

Summary

This PDP originated in a consensus recommendation from the GNSO’s prior PDP Working Group on the Protection of International Organization Names in All gTLDs (IGO-INGO WG). This was for the GNSO Council to request an Issue Report, as a preceding step to a possible Policy Development Process to explore possible amendments to existing curative rights protection mechanisms, i.e. the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) and the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) procedure, to address the specific needs of International Governmental Organizations (IGOs) and International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs).

Engagement Opportunity Status



On 2 June 2014 the GNSO Council [resolved](#) to initiate the PDP following its review of the [Final Issue Report](#), and on 25 June the GNSO Council [adopted](#) the charter for the PDP Working Group to be formed. The WG has made significant progress in its deliberations over the topics outlined in its charter, which tasks it to also consider the possibility of developing a separate, narrowly tailored dispute resolution procedure based on the UDRP and/or URS, to apply specifically to those IGOs and INGOs whose identifiers had previously been recommended for protection by the original IGO-INGO WG.

The WG has preliminarily determined: (1) to exclude INGOs from further consideration in the PDP, thus focusing only on IGOs; and (2) that standing to file a complaint may appropriately be based on an IGO's having affirmatively sought protection under Article 6ter of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. It is currently considering the issue of an IGO's jurisdictional immunity, and how this might affect the Mutual Jurisdiction requirement currently in the UDRP and URS. To ensure that it fully understands the issue, the WG has requested ICANN to engage an external legal expert as it continues to await a concrete proposal from the IGO small group.

In this regard, the WG welcomes further input from the GAC, especially on topics which may have public international law and policy implications.

Additional Information

- Final Issue Report on IGO-INGO Access to UDRP & URS processes <http://gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/igo-ingo-crp-final-25may14-en.pdf>
- Charter for new PDP Working Group <http://gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/igo-ingo-crp-access-charter-24jun14-en.pdf>
- Amended Charter provisions <http://gnso.icann.org/en/council/resolutions#20150416-3>
- WG wiki space including background documents and latest research <https://community.icann.org/x/37rhAg>

Policy Development Process Update

Protection of Certain International Organization Names in all gTLDs

November 2015

Upcoming Important Dates

Implementation Review Team is developing an implementation plan for Board-adopted PDP recommendations not inconsistent with GAC advice. GNSO Council is awaiting the final proposal from the IGO “small group” prior to considering possible amendments to its remaining PDP recommendations inconsistent with GAC advice.

Summary

In November 2013, the GNSO Council unanimously adopted all the consensus recommendations from its PDP Working Group regarding protections at the top and second level in all gTLDs for the names and acronyms of certain International Government Organizations (IGOs) and International Non-Government Organizations (INGOs), including the Red Cross international movement and its national societies (RCRC) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Notably, on IGO acronyms, the GNSO did not recommend reservation either at the top or second levels; instead it recommended protection by way of claims notices via the Trademark Clearinghouse.

On 30 April 2014 the Board [adopted](#) those of the GNSO’s recommendations that are not inconsistent with GAC advice received on the topic and requested additional time to consider the remaining recommendations (which include those relating to IGO acronym protections). It also resolved to facilitate dialogue between the GAC, GNSO and other affected parties to resolve the remaining differences. An Implementation Review Team to implement the Board-adopted recommendations under the direction of the Global Domains Division has been formed.

In June 2014 the NGPC [requested](#) that the GNSO Council consider amending its remaining policy recommendations with respect to the nature and duration of protection for IGO acronyms, the full names of the entities making up the international Red Cross movement and the names of 189 national Red Cross societies. The GNSO Council [responded](#) to the NGPC’s request in October seeking further clarification and in January 2015 received the NGPC’s [reply](#) advising that discussions remain ongoing. In the meantime, at the ICANN meeting in Los Angeles in October 2014, the NGPC [resolved](#) to protect the names of the international Red Cross and the 189 national societies on an interim basis. Staff is currently working with the Red Cross on implementation of this resolution.

Engagement Opportunity Status



The GAC's [Los Angeles Communique](#) reaffirmed its previous advice on the protection of IGO names and acronyms and also acknowledges the NGPC's latest resolution to temporarily protect the Red Cross' national society identifiers until the differences between the GNSO's consensus recommendations and GAC advice are reconciled. In its [Singapore Communique](#) the GAC expressed its intention to continue to work with interested parties to reach agreement on appropriate permanent protections for IGO names and acronyms, including working with the GNSO PDP Working Group on IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms. The [Buenos Aires Communique](#) expressed the GAC's hope for a concrete solution by ICANN54 while welcoming the preventative protections that remain in place until the implementation of permanent mechanisms. Most recently, the [Dublin Communique](#) requested the ICANN Board to facilitate the timely completion of the work of the IGO small group in order to resolve the issue.

Additional Information

- PDP Working Group Final Report <http://gns0.icann.org/en/issues/igo-ingo-final-10nov13-en.pdf>
- GNSO Council Recommendation Report to ICANN Board <http://gns0.icann.org/en/issues/council-board-igo-ingo-23jan14-en.pdf>
- ICANN Board Resolution of 30 April 2014 <https://features.icann.org/gns0-policy-recommendations-igo-ingo-protections>
- NGPC Letter of 16 June 2014 <http://gns0.icann.org/en/correspondence/chalaby-to-robinson-16jun14-en.pdf>
- GNSO Council Response of 7 October 2014 to NGPC Letter <http://gns0.icann.org/en/correspondence/robinson-to-chalaby-disspain-07oct14-en.pdf>
- NGPC Resolution of 12 October 2014 on interim protections for the international Red Cross and national Red Cross entities <https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-new-gtld-2014-10-12-en#2.d>
- NGPC Letter Response to GNSO Council of 15 January 2015 <http://gns0.icann.org/en/correspondence/chalaby-to-robinson-15jan15-en.pdf>

Policy Development Process (PDP) Update

Translation and Transliteration Of Contact Information

November 2015

Upcoming important dates

Following the adoption of the recommendations by the ICANN Board on 28 September 2015, ICANN Staff is currently preparing an Implementation Plan. Once completed, they will send out a call to form an Implementation Review Team to assist with the adequate implementation of all recommendations.

Summary

The Policy Development Process (PDP) on the translation and transliteration had its inaugural meeting on 19 December 2013. It focused its work the following issues:

1. Whether it is desirable to translate contact information to a single common language or transliterate contact information to a single common script.
2. Who should decide which party(s) should bear the burden of translating contact information to a single common language or transliterating contact information to a single common script.

The Working Group completed its Final Report, which was approved by the GNSO Council on 24 June. In its Final Report, the Working Group does not recommend to mandate the translation/transliteration of contact information data. Instead the Group recommends that registrants are able to submit contact data in any language/script supported by their registrar; ideally the registrant's native one. The Group expressed in its Final Report that data submitted in a script native to the registrant is most likely to be accurate and that the costs of translating and/or transliterating all Contact Information data would be disproportionate to any potential benefits. On 28 September, the ICANN Board [adopted the recommendations](#).

Engagement Opportunity Status



Staff will send out a call to the Community to join the implementation Review Team (IRT) in due course; although aimed primarily at those Community members who took part in the PDP, the IRT will be open to all.

Additional Information

- Final Report <http://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/gtlds/translation-transliteration-contact-final-12jun15-en.pdf>
- ICANN Board resolution <https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2015-09-28-en>
- Report on Public Comments prior to Board Consideration <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/report-comments-transliteration-contact-recommendations-13aug15-en.pdf>
- GNSO Council Resolution <http://gnso.icann.org/en/council/resolutions#20150624-3>
- Initial Report <http://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/gtlds/transliteration-contact-initial-15dec14-en.pdf>
- Webinar Recording on Initial Report <https://icann.adobeconnect.com/p2lzk3zy0f/>
- Report of Public Comment on Initial Report <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/report-comments-transliteration-contact-initial-19feb15-en.pdf>
- Wiki Space <https://community.icann.org/x/FTR-Ag>

Policy Development Process Update

Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy Part D

November 2015

Upcoming important dates

Following the successful work of the Implementation Review Team, the implementation proposal is currently open for comment until 8 January 2016.

Summary

The Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy (IRTP) is a consensus policy that provides a straightforward procedure for domain name holders to transfer domain names between registrars. An overall review of this policy started in 2007 and the final effort, IRTP Part D is under way since 2013. The WG's Final Report contains 18 Recommendations, including*:

- The statute of limitation to launch a TDRP be extended from 6 to 12 months;
- If a request for enforcement is initiated under the TDRP, the relevant domain should be 'locked' against further transfers;
- **Not to** develop dispute options for registrants as part of the current TDRP;
- That the TDRP be modified to eliminate the First (Registry) Level of the TDRP;
- The WG does **not** recommend the elimination of FOAs;
- The WG also recommended that, once all IRTP recommendations are implemented the GNSO Council, together with ICANN staff, to convene a panel to collect, discuss, and analyze relevant data to determine whether these enhancements have improved the IRTP process and dispute mechanisms, and identify possible remaining shortcomings.

*Please note that these are extracts from a non-exhaustive list, see [Final Report](#) for details.

Engagement Opportunity Status



Please consult the implementation proposal and, if applicable, submit feedback to the Public Comment Forum.

Additional Information

- Final Report <http://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/transfers/irtp-d-final-25sep14-en.pdf>
- ICANN Board Resolution <https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2015-02-12-en#1.d>
- GNSO Council Resolution <http://gnso.icann.org/en/council/resolutions#20141015-1>
- Implementation Review Team Workspace <https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=53777540>
- Public Comment on implementation proposal: <https://www.icann.org/public-comments/irtp-d-implementation-2015-11-10-en>