

GNSO POLICY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

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

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES: Request for engagement with and input from the GAC was sent in December 2014. Input from IGO representatives was sought and received in Jan 2015. The Working Group will continue to seek input from the GAC and interested IGOs.

SUMMARY

One of the consensus recommendations from the GNSO's Working Group on the Protection of International Organization Names in All gTLDs (IGO-INGO WG) was for the GNSO Council to request an Issue Report, as a preceding step to a possible Policy Development Process (PDP), to explore possible amendments to the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) and the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) procedure to enable access to and use of such curative rights protection mechanisms by protected 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 Working Group has made significant progress in its deliberations over the topics outlined in its charter, which includes the possibility of developing a separate, narrowly tailored dispute resolution procedure based on the UDRP and/or URS, to be applicable specifically only to those IGOs and INGOs whose identifiers had previously been recommended for protection by the original IGO-INGO WG.

The Working Group 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 sought protection under Article 6ter of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. In addition to its previously-submitted questions to the GAC, it is preparing a follow up to the IGO coalition on the issue of jurisdictional immunity for IGOs. It looks forward to further engagement with the GAC and IGOs on this topic. The PDP also remains open for additional Members and Observers to participate in the Working Group.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Final Issue Report on IGO-INGO Access to UDRP & URS processes: <http://gns0.icann.org/en/drafts/igo-ingo-crp-final-25may14-en.pdf>
- Charter for new PDP Working Group (as adopted by the GNSO Council on 25 June 2014): <http://gns0.icann.org/en/drafts/igo-ingo-crp-access-charter-24jun14-en.pdf>

- WG wiki space including background documents and latest research:
<https://community.icann.org/x/37rhAg>