

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](#)

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