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