



Date: 30 April 2010

To: GNSO Council Members
GNSO Stakeholder Groups
GNSO Constituencies

Subject: GNSO Work Prioritization Project List

The purpose of this letter is to transmit a Policy Staff recommendation concerning the set of Eligible Projects for the GNSO Work Prioritization effort pursuant to a [GNSO Council Resolution](#) approved on 21 April 2010. For those who may not be familiar with this initiative, I have included background information at the bottom of this message below the signature line.

In accordance with the Council's Resolution, including approved timeline (below), Staff has completed the first activity (ANNEX Step 1). The attached document, GNSO Work Prioritization Projects List, represents an important first step in the recommended GNSO Operating Procedures (proposed [Chapter 6 and ANNEX](#)) submitted by the Work Prioritization Model Drafting Team (WPM-DT) and accepted for initial use by the GNSO Council on 21 April 2010.

The document contains a compilation of GNSO Projects, including brief descriptions, categorized into two groups: (a) Table 1 – Eligible Projects (for Work Prioritization) and (b) Table 2 – Ineligible Projects. Each Ineligible Project is annotated (see Table 2) as to the reason for its recommended exclusion from the Work Prioritization effort. GNSO community members are encouraged to familiarize themselves with [Chapter 6 and its ANNEX](#) in order to understand how the Eligible Projects List fits into the overall architecture of the GNSO Work Prioritization program.

TIMELINE FOR GNSO's FIRST WORK PRIORITIZATION EFFORT

| Dates | Activities (per proposed ANNEX to Chapter 6) |
|--------------|---|
| 26-30 April | ANNEX Step 1: Staff prepares its recommendations for Eligible and Non-Eligible Projects and their associated classifications |
| 30 April | Staff distributes recommended Project Lists to GNSO Council and all relevant GNSO structures (e.g. Stakeholder Groups, Constituencies). |
| 3-19 May | Chair asks for Council approval (via email list) to adopt or modify Staff's recommendations |

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 20 May Council Meeting | Eligible Projects List approved by Council |
| 21 May - 7 June | ANNEX Step 2: Individual Councilor ratings completed (extended to 17 calendar days) and delivered to Staff |
| 8-15 June | ANNEX Step 2.3: Staff consolidates ratings and analyzes for commonality; prepares for Step 3. |
| 19 June (or 20 June) | ANNEX Step 3: Group Session (2 hours) to determine Value ratings |
| 23 June Council Meeting (Brussels) | ANNEX Step 4: Approve final ratings/priorities and direct that results be published at gns0.icann.org . |

According to the above timeline, the GNSO Council will consider Staff's recommendation (from 3-19 May) and, unless changes are suggested, will approve the Eligible Projects List (Table 1) at its meeting on 20 May 2010. Once that milestone has been reached, the Council will proceed to ANNEX Steps 2, 3, and 4, as indicated, culminating in a set of project priorities to be approved at the GNSO Council meeting in Brussels. *Note: the GNSO Secretariat has already scheduled Step 3 (2 hour group session) for Saturday morning, 19 June, in Brussels.*

If you have any questions about this email, the attachment, or the GNSO Work Prioritization initiative, please direct them to Robert Hoggarth at policy-staff@icann.org. Thank you,

David Olive
V.P. - ICANN Policy Development

GNSO Work Prioritization Background:

During the Summer/Fall of 2009, the ICANN Secretariat and Policy Staff conducted an analysis for the Council of the actual levels of participation and attendance for GNSO Working Groups and Work Teams from the beginning of 2008 and continuing through approximately early September 2009. Staff's final report, delivered to the Council in Seoul, found "evidence of sporadic attendance and, in some cases, very low participation by some Constituencies and inconsistent participation by others." The Staff encouraged additional community dialogue concerning the following questions:

- How might the GNSO's work be prioritized?
- Is there too much GNSO work and, if so, what might be done to assess the total capacity?
- Are Constituencies providing enough recruits to the groups being formed?
- What levels of group participation should be targeted for each Constituency?

As a result of this study and analysis, the GNSO Council organized a Work Process Model Drafting Team (WPM-DT) to develop a methodology for prioritizing the GNSO's project work.

The WPM-DT focused its efforts principally on the first question above regarding Council priorities. On 9 April 2010, the WPM-DT delivered a recommended model methodology and set of procedures to help the Council prioritize its work. The WPM-DT's intent was to ensure that the recommended process:

- is user-friendly, unambiguous, and straightforward to execute;
- produces realistic outputs that will help the Council to make effective management decisions; and
- is structured as an on-going task that accommodates change including the introduction of new projects as they are proposed in the future.

At its 21 April meeting the Council accepted (see [GNSO Council Resolution](#)) the WPM-DT's deliverable and approved the use of a new Operating Procedures [Chapter 6 and ANNEX](#) for conducting its first Work Prioritization effort. In addition to directing the opening of a public [Comment Forum](#), the Council established a timetable for conducting its initial effort at a group working session when Councilors travel to Brussels, Belgium for the June 2010 ICANN meeting.
