

Dear GNSO Council Leadership,

Please find enclosed my status report on the SubPro ODP for the January 2022 GNSO Council Meeting. I have also copied the SubPro ODP official mailing list, but I would ask that you forward this to the GNSO Council list on my behalf.

If you have any questions or comments, please let me know.

On December 16, 2021, we had our second SubPro ODP Liaison call with ICANN's SubPro ODP team. Much of what we covered was subsequently announced by ICANN on December 20, 2021 in [its announcement](#) on the formal launch of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Operational Design Phase. As the announcement stated, on December 17, 2021, ICANN org [advised the Board](#) that it was formally commencing the Operational Design Phase as of this month (January 2022).

During the call we spent some time discussing what this actually means – namely, to go from the preparation phase to the actual operational design phase. Over the past three months, ICANN Org has been transitioning resources (including personnel) from other projects to work on this ODP. In addition, Karen Lentz, who is responsible for the ODP from ICANN's Global Domain Services group has expanded her team with at least one new hire (perhaps more by this point) to assist with the project. Chris Bare, an experienced project manager, who has been working on new gTLDs since the last round, has been developing a comprehensive project plan with milestones and deliverables to enable ICANN Org to meet the 10 month ODP timeline. In addition, as was discussed in the [December 1, 2021 blog post by Karen](#), the ODP has been divided into 12 scoping areas that will involve virtually every division at ICANN, including Finance, HR, Global Engagement, Systems and Tools, and ICANN Procurement (to name a few). Now that the ODP has been formally kicked off (as of this month), members of each of these teams have been assigned to work with the ODP team so that ICANN will be able to complete the Operational Design.

ICANN Org is waiting for the GNSO Council to respond to its [Initial Set of questions](#) submitted on November 17, 2021. At its December GNSO Council meeting, the Council agreed to have all [feedback on the responses \[docs.google.com\]](#) by no later than January 13, 2021. In addition, Council Leadership is finalizing a process to follow as we move forward so that we can respond to ICANN Org's questions much more quickly than the two months it has taken us to date to respond. I believe that will be discussed at our Council meeting on January 20th. In addition, the Council still needs to decide whether it is happy with the current set of information that it is being provided (through the Liaison), or whether it is interested in more transparency as discussed during the December GNSO Council meeting.

The next SubPro ODP Liaison call with ICANN Org is scheduled for January 25, 2022. If you have any comments or questions, please send them to me and to subpro-odp@icann.org. An archive of that mailing list can be found at <https://mm.icann.org/pipermail/subpro-odp/>.

Sincerely,

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