

New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP

August 2018 Newsletter

**Note: all upcoming meetings are subject to change. For current scheduling information, please see the [GNSO Master Calendar](#) and the Working Group [scheduling document](#).

CURRENT STATUS AND NEXT STEPS

Current Status of Overall Working Group and Work Tracks 1-4:

The Working Group continues to accept [public comments](#) on its [Initial Report](#), which was published on 3 July. The report includes preliminary recommendations, options, and questions for community input. The public comment period will remain open until 5 September. All are welcome and encouraged to submit feedback on this report.

The Working Group held two meetings in July:

16 July:

- Received a recap of discussions at ICANN62 and went over the proposed focus of work for July and August, including topics that may need further discussion as well as consideration of the Final Recommendations from the Competition, Consumer Trust & Consumer Choice Review Team, once available.
- Discussed pros and cons in relation to auctions of last resort and considered possible alternatives to these auctions, such as allowing applicants to change applications to avoid contention or a lottery mechanism to determine which applicant in a contention set will be delegated the string.
- Reviewed process used by ICANN in the 2012 round to consider application change requests and exchanged views on potential changes that should always be allowed, as well as changes that should never be allowed in subsequent procedures.

31 July:

- Reviewed key points raised at ICANN62 regarding the use of private auctions to resolve contention and considered suggestions for discouraging private auctions in subsequent procedures.
- Considered the role of application comment in the 2012 round, went over key takeaways on this topic from ICANN62, and discussed whether adjustments to the application comment process or function may be desirable in the future.
- Reviewed the proposed work plan for the Working Group leading up to ICANN63.

There were no meetings held for the individual Work Tracks (1-4) during the month of July separate and apart from the full group meetings.

Next Steps for Overall Working Group and Work Tracks 1-4:

The Working Group has meetings scheduled for 13 August and 27 August. During these meetings the Working Group will continue discussions on the open issues that may require further discussion as well as how to tackle the Final Recommendations from the Competition, Consumer Trust & Consumer Choice Review Team, which are expected to be published shortly.

Current Status of Work Track 5:

Work Track 5 held two meetings in July:

11 July:

- Received a recap of input received during the two cross-community sessions in Panama that were facilitated by the Work Track 5 co-leaders.
- Discussed principles that may guide policy decisions on the treatment of city names that are not capital city names.
- Began to discuss principles that may guide policy decisions about terms that were not included in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook but that some stakeholders consider to be geographic names.

25 July:

- Discussed concrete problems experienced and observed in the 2012 round regarding city names that are not capital city names.
- Considered possible solutions that could address the problems identified.
- Reviewed the range of perspectives on future treatment of non-capital city names and the rationale for each of these proposed future treatments.
- Discussed proposed implementation guidance about the program in general that Work Track members have put forward.

Next Steps for Work Track 5:

Work Track 5 has meetings scheduled for 8 August and 22 August. Upcoming discussions are intended to feed into an Initial Report, which is expected to be published in September.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

In June 2014, the GNSO Council established a Discussion Group that was intended to evaluate the experiences of the 2012 round gTLD Program and to identify possible areas for future GNSO policy development. The Discussion Group's [deliverables](#) served as the basis for the GNSO Council's request for a Preliminary Issue Report in June of 2015.

Following the publication of the [Final Issue Report](#), the GNSO Council adopted the [charter](#) for the PDP Working Group, which began its work in February 2016. The Working Group initially

concentrated on a set of overarching issues and has since established five separate Work Tracks to consider specific topic areas: Work Track 1 - Overall Process/Support/Outreach, Work Track 2 - Legal/Regulatory, Work Track 3: String Contention/Objections & Disputes, Work Track 4: Internationalized Domain Names/Technical & Operations, Work Track 5: Geographic Names at the Top Level.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The Discussion Group identified a number of subjects that may require further analysis and possible formulation of policy language. There are existing policy recommendations adopted by the GNSO Council and ICANN Board, which will remain in place unless the PDP WG determines that changes are needed.

**To join this effort, please email the GNSO Secretariat: gnso-secs@icann.org
All are welcome!**

MORE INFORMATION

- PDP Working Group Workspace Wiki: <https://community.icann.org/x/RgV1Aw>
- PDP Working Group Charter: <https://community.icann.org/x/KAp1Aw>
- PDP Working Group Active Project Page: <https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/new-gtld-subsequent-procedures>