

### New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP

#### July 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 published its [Initial Report](#) for [public comment](#) on 3 July, including 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.

Working Group meetings in June held prior to ICANN62 focused on reviewing draft sections of the Working Group's Initial Report:

- [4 June](#): The Application Evaluation/Criteria section, with review focused on topics String Similarity, IDNs, Security and Stability, and Applicant Reviews: Technical/Operational, Financial and Registry Services.
- [12 June](#): The Application Evaluation/Criteria section, with review focused on topic Name Collisions and the Foundational Issues section, with review focused on topics Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice, Global Public Interest, Applicant Freedom of Expression, and Universal Acceptance.
- [14 June](#): The Dispute Proceedings section, with review focused on topic Objections.
- [18 June](#): The Dispute Proceedings section, with review focused on topic Accountability Mechanisms and String Contention Resolution section, with review focused on topic Community Applications.

The Working Group held three face-to-face working sessions at ICANN62. In the [first session](#), the Co-Chairs provided background on the PDP and a status update on the Working Group's progress. The group discussed next steps following publication of the Initial Report and the path to reaching consensus on final recommendations. The [second session](#) focused on topics within the PDP's charter that have not yet been extensively discussed by the Working Group: Auctions - mechanisms of last resort, private auctions, the role of application comment, change requests, and support for new gTLDs. The Working Group received valuable input from those attending (both in person and remotely) on these issues and it became apparent that more work will need to be done by the Working Group on

these issues. In the [third session](#), the group discussed final input on the content of the Initial Report.

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

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

The full Working Group will resume meeting every other week in July. Meetings are scheduled for 16 July and 31 July. During these meetings the Working Group will continue discussions on the open issues identified above as well as how to tackle the Final Recommendations from the Competition, Consumer Trust & Consumer Choice Review Team expected to be published shortly.

## **Current Status of Work Track 5:**

Work Track 5 held two regular meetings in June in addition to meeting in person at ICANN62:

### 6 June:

- Discussed upcoming sessions planned for ICANN62.
- Deliberated on potential areas of agreement for geographic names at the top level included in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.
- Continued to discuss potential future treatment of city names that are not capital city names.

### 13 June:

- Reviewed planning activities underway for ICANN62 sessions.
- Discussed future treatment of capital city names and other city names.

At ICANN62, the Work Track co-leaders facilitated two Cross-Community Sessions focused on gathering broader community input on topics discussed in Work Track 5. During the first session on [25 June](#), the Work Track co-leaders provided background and a status update on Work Track 5 and summarized areas of preliminary convergence in the Work Track. The session also included a brainstorm on potential solutions within the existing geographic names process. The second session took place on [28 June](#) and focused on collecting feedback on principles against which proposed solutions could be compared and encouraging participants to find compromise solutions that meet the needs and requirements of different stakeholders.

Work Track 5 had a meeting on 11 July, which will be summarized in the following edition of the newsletter.

## **Next Steps for Work Track 5:**

Work Track 5 has a meeting scheduled for 25 July. Upcoming discussions are intended to feed into an Initial Report 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: [gns0-secs@icann.org](mailto:gns0-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://gns0.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/new-gtld-subsequent-procedures>