Expeditied Policy Development Process: Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data - Phase 2 & Phase 2A

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN70 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The EPDP Phase 2 Team has completed its work and, accordingly, will not be meeting at ICANN70. The Chair of the EPDP Phase 2A Team will be presenting the team’s progress to the GNSO Council during its public meeting at ICANN70.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

On 17 May 2018, the ICANN Board approved the Temporary Specification for generic top-level domain (gTLD) Registration Data to allow contracted parties to comply with existing ICANN contractual requirements while also complying with the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This Board action triggered the GNSO Council initiation of the PDP on 19 July 2018. The PDP was conducted in two phases: Phase 1 aimed to confirm, or not, the Temporary Specification by 25 May 2019; Phase 2 discussed, among other elements, a standardized access model to nonpublic registration data. Learn More

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

Phase 2

The GNSO Council approved the Phase 2 Final Report during its meeting on 24 September 2020 by a supermajority. The Final Report sets out the EPDP Team’s recommendations for a System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) to nonpublic gTLD registration data, as well as recommendations and conclusions for the so-called “Priority 2” topics, which include, et al., data retention and city field redaction.

As part of its approval, the GNSO Council agreed to request a consultation with the ICANN Board to discuss the financial sustainability of the SSAD and some of the concerns expressed within the different minority statements, including whether a further cost-benefit analysis should be conducted before the ICANN Board considers all SSAD-related recommendations for adoption.

As the requested consultation related only to SSAD-related recommendations, the Board opted to consider the Priority 2 recommendations separately, and conducted
a **public comment** period on those recommendations from December 2020 to January 2021. Prior to ICANN70, the GNSO Council held an initial consultation with the ICANN Board regarding the SSAD-related recommendations prior to the Board’s launch of the Operational Design Phase (ODP).

**Phase 2A**
Following the request from some EPDP Team members, the GNSO Council asked the EPDP Team to continue work on two topics: 1) the differentiation of legal vs. natural persons’ registration data and 2) the feasibility of unique contacts to have a uniform anonymized email address.

As a result, the EPDP Team is currently reviewing these topics assigned by the GNSO Council in **Phase 2A** of its work. The team has been meeting regularly since December 2020 and progressing toward publishing its Initial Report in May 2021.

**WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?**
For Phase 2, the ICANN Board is expected to launch the ODP prior to its consideration of the SSAD-related recommendations. For Phase 2A, the team’s Chair will inform the GNSO Council during its public session at ICANN70 the team’s progress thus far and its likelihood to reach consensus on the two assigned topics.

**HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**
As part of the ICANN Board’s consideration of the EPDP Phase 2 recommendations, a **public comment forum** is currently open. Anyone interested is invited to provide their input to help inform the Board’s consideration of the recommendations.

**MORE INFORMATION**
- **EPDP Phase 2 webpage**
- **EPDP workspace**

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