

ICANN | GNSO

Generic Names Supporting Organization

Name:	GNSO Standing Selection Committee	
Section I: Working Group Identification		
Chartering Organization(s):	Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council	
Charter Approval Date:	<Enter Approval Date>	
Name of Standing Committee Chair:	GNSO Chair.	
Name(s) of Appointed Liaison(s):	<Enter Liaison>	
Standing Selection Committee Workspace URL:	<Enter Active Project URL from GNSO Site>	
Standing Selection Committee Mailing List:	<Enter Mailman archive link>	
GNSO Council Resolution:	Title:	<Enter Resolution Title>
	Ref # & Link:	<Enter Resolution link>
Important Document Links:	•	
Section II: Mission, Purpose, and Deliverables		
Mission & Scope:		
<p>The GNSO Standing Selection Committee (SSC) is tasked to 1) ,where applicable, prepare and issue calls for applications related to the selection or nomination of candidates for ICANN structures such as ICANN review teams as well as structures related to the Empowered Community, 2) review and evaluate all relevant applicants/candidates, 3) rank candidates and make selection/appointment recommendations for review and approval by Council and 4) communicate selections to all interested parties.</p>		

Commented [MK1]: This is a test.....

Commented [MK2]: It was suggested in other sections that this was the responsibility of the GNSO Chair following Council approval. Depending on what you decide it will need to be updated here or in the other section of the document that refers to this.

This charter sets out the general guidelines and principles that the SSC is expected to apply to any selection process, recognizing that depending on the scope or nature of the selection in question certain modifications may have to be made. For any selection process, the SSC is expected to communicate in advance the expected steps and timeline that will apply to that specific selection process.

The SSC is expected to provide its recommendations to the GNSO Council for consideration, which will make the ultimate determination on any appointments, selections and/or nominations.

Objectives & Goals:

To provide recommendations to the GNSO Council on the selection and/or nomination of GNSO representatives to ICANN structures, such as, for example, review teams as well as Empowered Community related structures.

Deliverables & Timeframes:

The SSC is expected as one of its first work products to develop a proposed timeline as well as expected steps for the different appointments and/or nominations that are of a recurring nature such as the:

- Nominations for ICANN review teams as provided for in the ICANN Bylaws (note, that this does not include the SCWG & IFR RT – appointments for those efforts are made directly by GNSO SGs);
- Appointment of the GNSO representative to the Empowered Community;
- GNSO liaison to the GAC, and;
- The GNSO non-registry representative on the Customer Standing Committee.

Section III: Formation, Staffing, and Organization

Membership Criteria:

The SSC shall consist of one member appointed by:

OPTION 1: each Stakeholder Group; or

OPTION 2: each Stakeholder Group and/or Constituency.

For each member appointed by a [SG] [SG and/or C], an alternate will be appointed who is expected to participate in the SSC deliberations in case of absence of the member or in cases where a member

Commented [MK3]: Should alternates also be appointed, but noting that only the member or alternate can participate, not both?

Commented [AD4R3]: Agree, we should include something about alternates

Commented [MK5]: GNSO Council to weigh in on which option to follow to constitute the

<p>may be conflicted (e.g. in case he or she is one of the candidates to be reviewed by the SSC).</p> <p>Members or alternates do not need to be Council members but they do need to be appointed and/or reconfirmed by the leadership of the appointing [SG] [SG and/or C].</p> <p>Furthermore, the non-voting nominating committee appointee to the GNSO Council will also serve as a member of the SSC. In addition, the GNSO leadership team (GNSO Chair and Council Vice-Chairs) will participate as ex-officio members, with the GNSO Chair serving as Chair of the SSC. Should the GNSO Chair be absent, one of the vice-chairs will chair the meeting in his/her place.</p>
<p>Committee Formation, Dependencies, & Dissolution:</p> <p>The SSC will be a standing committee. The membership is expected to be confirmed by [option 1: each Stakeholder Group, or option 2: Each Stakeholder Group and/or Constituency] within 3 weeks after the end of the ICANN AGM. Members may not serve for more than two consecutive terms, with the exception of the GNSO Chair and/or Council Vice-Chairs. Upon establishment of the SSC, it will make a recommendation for staggering of the original membership by either agreeing on a 1 year term limit or a 3 year limit for a number of the members or a combination thereof. At any time the GNSO Council may decide to dissolve the standing committee should there no longer be a need for such committee.</p>
<p>Committee Roles, Functions, & Duties:</p> <p>The ICANN Staff assigned to the SSC will fully support the work of the committee as requested by the Chair including meeting support, document drafting, editing and distribution and other substantive contributions when deemed appropriate.</p> <p>The standard Committee roles, functions & duties shall be applicable as specified in Section 2.2 of the Working Group Guidelines.</p>
<p>Statements of Interest (SOI) Guidelines:</p> <p>Each member of the Standing Committee is required to submit an SOI in accordance with Section 5 of the GNSO Operating Procedures.</p>
<p>Transparency</p> <p>Unless otherwise directed by the GNSO Council, the names of all applicants and all documents received during the selection process shall be considered public and published on the GNSO web-site</p>

or other ICANN web-site. To facilitate its deliberations, the SSC may decide to conduct some or all of its deliberations in private, but if so, it is expected to provide a rationale with its recommendations.

Section IV: Rules of Engagement

Review Team Appointments Principles

For any appointments and/or nominations, the SSC is expected to apply the following guiding principles, noting that depending on the scope or nature of the selection in question certain modifications may have to be made. For any selection process, the SSC is expected to communicate in advance the expected steps and timeline that will apply to that specific selection process.

1. The SSC should ensure adequate representation and participation of its members to ensure diversity of views. Should there be any concerns in relation to participation of selected members, the SSC is expected to raise those concerns with the appointing [option 1. SG or option 2. SG/C].
2. Following receipt of the list of candidates, the SSC is expected to reach out to each SG/C to confirm affiliation as stated by candidates.
3. Each SG/C should be provided with sufficient opportunity to provide this confirmation as well as any other information the SG/C deems useful for the SSC to consider as part of its evaluation.
4. In those cases where the SSC is responsible for the call for volunteers or has been requested to provide input, it will, at a minimum, list the nature and responsibilities of the position, the skill set desired of applicants and the criteria that will be used by the SSC to rank and select applicants. The call for applications shall be submitted to the GNSO Council for review prior to publication.
5. Members of the SSC are expected to individually evaluate all candidates. Following that, the SSC will collectively review and evaluate all the applications and other materials relevant to the selection through a method determined by the SSC (for example, a survey tool may be used to assess the skills and qualifications of candidates).
6. The SSC will, based on this review, by consensus (see next section), rank the candidates according to the criteria listed in the call for applications.
7. The SSC shall strive as far as possible to achieve balance, representativeness, diversity and sufficient expertise appropriate for the applicable selection process.
8. The SSC shall communicate to the GNSO Council the selected candidate(s), including proposed ranking where applicable. The level of consensus reached by the SSC on the selected candidates will also be communicated as well as any minority views, should these exist.

Commented [MK6]: Do you also expect the SSC to operate in full transparency, e.g. archived mailing lists, option for observers, calls recorded and transcribed, or is the SSC expected to work behind closed doors and only expected to communicate on the process it will apply and the eventual outcome?

Commented [AD7R6]: Deliberations – no, but the SSR should provide some rationale with the recommendations.

Commented [MK8]: This is what the original draft said, but isn't it the expectation that the SSC will do the ranking?

Commented [AD9R8]: Agreed, should be SSC rather than Council.

Commented [MK10]: This adds significant time to the overall process. You may want to consider, it is submitted to the Council for review prior to publication. If any concerns or objections are expressed, the call for applications will be subject to further discussion and a possible vote if no agreement can be reached on possible modifications.

Commented [AD11]: This is a placeholder that I think we need to make explicit somewhere.

Commented [MK12]: Should any provision be made for situations in which no agreement can be reached, for example, by suggesting that the SSC could consider in such situations that all candidates that are deemed to meet the criteria are ranked by random selection?

Following receipt of the SSC recommendations, the GNSO Council is expected to consider the proposed candidate(s) for approval. Should the GNSO Council disagree, or partially disagree, with the SSC recommendations, it has the ability to 1) approve the recommendations in part or 2) return the recommendations to the SSC with a request for further consideration.

Following approval by the GNSO Council, the GNSO Chair, with the assistance of the GNSO Secretariat, will inform the relevant party (for example, in the case of Review Team nominations, the SO/AC Chairs) of the selection and possible ranking of candidates.

Commented [MK13]: See previous comment.

Decision-Making Methodologies:

The Chair will be responsible for designating each position as having one of the following designations:

- **Full consensus** - when no one in the group speaks against the recommendation in its last readings. This is also sometimes referred to as **Unanimous Consensus**.
- **Consensus** - a position where only a small minority disagrees, but most agree.
- **Minority View** - refers to a proposal where a small number of people support the recommendation.

Status Reporting:

As requested by the GNSO Council.

Problem/Issue Escalation & Resolution Processes:

{Note: the following material was extracted from Sections 3.4, 3.5, and 3.7 of the Working Group Guidelines and may be modified by the Chartering Organization at its discretion}

The SSC will adhere to [ICANN's Expected Standards of Behavior](#) as documented in Section F of the ICANN Accountability and Transparency Frameworks and Principles, January 2008.

If a SSC member feels that these standards are being abused, the affected party should appeal first to the Chair and, if unsatisfactorily resolved, to the Chair of the Chartering Organization or their designated representative. It is important to emphasize that expressed disagreement is not, by itself, grounds for abusive behavior. It should also be taken into account that as a result of cultural

differences and language barriers, statements may appear disrespectful or inappropriate to some but are not necessarily intended as such. However, it is expected that SSC members make every effort to respect the principles outlined in ICANN's Expected Standards of Behavior as referenced above.

The Chair is empowered to restrict the participation of someone who seriously disrupts the SSC. Any such restriction will be reviewed by the Chartering Organization. Generally, the participant should first be warned privately, and then warned publicly before such a restriction is put into place. In extreme circumstances, this requirement may be bypassed.

Any SSC member that believes that his/her contributions are being systematically ignored or discounted or wants to appeal a decision of the SSC or CO should first discuss the circumstances with the WG Chair. In the event that the matter cannot be resolved satisfactorily, the SSC member should request an opportunity to discuss the situation with the Chair of the Chartering Organization or their designated representative.

In addition, if any member of the SSC is of the opinion that someone is not performing their role according to the criteria outlined in this Charter, the same appeals process may be invoked.

Closure & Working Group Self-Assessment:

At any time the GNSO Council may decide to dissolve the standing committee should there no longer be a need for such committee.

Section V: Charter Document History

Version	Date	Description
1.0		

Staff Contact:	<Enter staff member name>	Email:	Policy-Staff@icann.org
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Translations: If translations will be provided please indicate the languages below:

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