

GNSO Improvements – Opportunities for Streamlining & Improvements (see <http://gns0.icann.org/en/drafts/pdp-improvements-22aug13-en.pdf> for full details)
 23 September 2013

Proposed Improvement	Council Feedback	Possible Changes	Proposed Implementation
1. Include proposed charter as part of the Issue Report	<p>Could be perceived as handing over some of the responsibility of the GNSO policymaking process to ICANN staff</p> <p>What would happen if Staff does not recommend initiating a PDP? Would a draft charter still be provided?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council to specifically request inclusion of draft Charter at the time of the request of the Issue Report - Treat consideration of draft Charter as consent agenda item – if anyone objects, without needing to specify a reason, the task of chartering will automatically move to a DT. 	<p>The GNSO PDP Manual foresees that ‘Upon initiation of the PDP, a group formed at the direction of Council should be convened to draft the charter for the PDP Team’.</p> <p>Applying the suggested approach would not contravene the GNSO PDP Manual. As a result, should there be support from the GNSO Council to try out this approach, it may be instructive to do it for the next PDP as a “trial run”, and if over time the Council believes that this approach is helpful, it could be formalized in the GNSO PDP Manual as one of the other alternatives that could be explored for the development of a PDP WG Charter.</p>
2. Intensity of PDP WG meetings	<p>Increased intensity may not be possible due to workload and may prevent volunteers from participating if they are not able to meet for 2-3 hours per week.</p>		<p>A further breakdown could be made per PDP on how many meeting hours it approximately takes for a PDP WG to deliver its Final Report. Based on this information and specific guidance from the GNSO Council on when it expects a PDP</p>

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			<p>WG to deliver its Final Report, the PDP WG could develop its work plan and determine whether any of the above measures should be explored. Furthermore, the GNSO Council could consider requesting under the SO/AC Additional Budget Requests additional funding to be used for PDPs for which it is determined that a F2F meeting outside of ICANN meetings would be essential to the success of that PDP.</p>
<p>3. Increase pool of PDP WG volunteers</p>			<p>In addition to many other efforts ongoing elsewhere within ICANN that are currently looking at engagement, training and outreach, the GNSO Council may want to consider whether there are any other measures it could undertake to facilitate the incorporation and recruitment of new volunteers. Also, individual invitations to each SG/Constituency Chair & Executive Committee could be sent inviting them to recruit for the particular PDP WG and asking them to make sure the SG/C is kept up to date with the progress of the group.</p>

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<p>4. Require WG representative / participant from each SG/C and possible liaison from SO/ACs</p>			<p>Currently the GNSO WG Guidelines don't mandate any 'required participation' but note that 'a Working Group should mirror the diversity and representativeness of the community by having representatives from most, if not all, GNSO Stakeholder Groups and/or Constituencies'. Should the GNSO Council want to build in a firm requirement for representation from each SG/C this could be written into the GNSO WG Guidelines. Alternatively this could also be done in the form of a commitment by all SG/Cs – perhaps solicited from the respective SG/C leaders at the time the Council votes to initiate the PDP - to do their best to provide at a minimum one representative for each PDP effort.</p>
<p>5. Improved online tools & training</p>	<p>There should be at least the option for working group chairs to be trained not only in sharing capabilities, and moderating capabilities but also with respect to drafting agendas and, you know, conducting consensus calls and other</p>		<p>Several activities are being rolled out in this area over the next couple of months. The GNSO Council may want to review how those activities relate to PDP WG efforts and provide input on how such activities may be further improved / modified</p>

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	complexities that might arise during the life circle of a PDP		in order to contribute to the success of the PDP.
6. PDP WG Rapporteur			<p>The GNSO PDP Manual does not prescribe how PDP WGs should conduct their work, so there would be flexibility to try out such an approach should a PDP WG determine that it would be beneficial to its efforts.</p> <p>Alternatively, the GNSO Council could encourage PDP WGs to consider this approach, if it is of the view that this could facilitate the PDP WG deliberations. If over time the Council believes that this approach is helpful, it could be formalized in the GNSO PDP Manual as one of the alternatives a PDP WG could explore in developing its Initial / Final Report.</p>
7. Professional moderation / facilitation & involvement of experts	External facilitation may not always be successful and would need to be carefully assessed.		<p>The GNSO Council could consider making a request under the SO/AC Additional Budget Requests for additional funding that could be used if the Council determined that the involvement of a professional facilitator, moderator or expert would be essential to the success of that PDP.</p>

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8. Organize workshops / discussions at the outset			The GNSO Council could further consider how it wishes to use this flexibility in the GNSO PDP Manual to encourage additional dialogue amongst the GNSO community and further understanding of the issues involved at the outset of a PDP.
9. Better data & metrics			The GNSO Council will need to monitor the efforts of the GNSO Policy & Implementation Working Group closely.