GNSO WG Newcomer Open House session
Welcome

+ Mikey O’Connor – GNSO Council Member
Meet the GNSO Policy Support Team

David Olive
Vice President, Policy Development
Location: Istanbul, Turkey

Marika Konings
Senior Policy Director and GNSO Team Leader
Location: Brussels, Belgium

Glen de Saint Géry
GNSO Secretariat
Location: Cannes, France
Meet the GNSO Policy Support Team

Mary Wong  
Senior Policy Director  
Location: New Hampshire, US

Julie Hedlund  
Policy Director  
Location: Washington DC, US

Lars Hoffman  
Policy Analyst  
Location: Brussels, Belgium
Meet the GNSO Policy Support Team

Berry Cobb
Consultant
Location: Scottsdale, US

Nathalie Peregrine
Secretariat Operations Coordinator
Location: Nice, France
Goals for this session

+ The agenda is flexible
+ Goal: Informal sharing of experiences
+ Ask any questions you may have
+ Provide you with some tips & tricks to find your way around
Agenda – what do you want to learn more about?

+ Your Questions

+ “Standard” Questions
  + GNSO Policy Development Process
  + Consensus Policy / Picket Fence
  + Working Group Guidelines
  + Mechanics: Wikis / Adobe Connect
  + Tips and Tricks: Finding information
GNSO Policy Development Process
GNSO Council – Manager of the PDP

1. Request for an Issues Report
2. Initiate Policy Development Process
3. Form Working Group
4. Gather Public Comments
5. Request for Stakeholder Group/Constituency Statements

- WG Initial Report
- Gather Public Comments
- WG Final Report

GNSO Policy Development Process
*Summarized

*Some steps omitted for brevity. Process being revised during 2010

GNSO Council Deliberates
Recommendation to ICANN Board
Gather Public Comments
Board Vote
Implementation

Policy
The Process

Approve and implement
- Implement the Policy
- Board Vote
- Public Comments, AC and SO statements
- GNSO Deliberations
- WG Final Report

Identify and launch
- Identify/Frame an Issue
- Request an Issue Report
- Public Comments, AC and SO Statements
- Initiate Policy Development Process
- Form PDP Team (working group form is preferred)

Refine and endorse
- Public Comments, AC and SO Statements

Develop consensus
- WG Initial Report
- Public Comments, AC and SO Statements
PDP WG Requirements

- Constituency / Stakeholder Group Statements
- Formally seek the opinion of other ICANN Advisory Committees and Supporting Organizations early on in the process
- Development of Initial Report & Public Comment
- Review of Comments
- Final Report
Further Reading

- Annex A of the ICANN Bylaws - http://www.icann.org/en/about/governance/bylaws#AnnexA
“Consensus Policy” and the Picket Fence
“Consensus Policy”

+ ICANN-accredited registrars and registries are bound to ICANN by contracts - [http://www.icann.org/en/general/agreements.htm](http://www.icann.org/en/general/agreements.htm)

+ In this context, "consensus Policy"* is a specification broadly supported by ICANN stakeholders, and thus could bind registrars and registries

* Need to refer to contracts for specific limitations & need to refer to Bylaws for overall scope issues. This presentation does not constitute legal advice or a waiver or modification of any ICANN agreement
Background

In its original agreements with ICANN, registries and registrars agreed to comply with “consensus” policies adopted by ICANN provided (i) that such policies did not unreasonably restrain competition and (ii) that the policies related to:

1. Issues for which uniform or coordinated resolution is reasonably necessary to facilitate interoperability, technical reliability and/or stable operation of the Internet or domain-name system;
2. Registry / registrar policies reasonably necessary to implement Consensus Policies relating to registrars/registries;
3. Resolution of disputes regarding the registration of domain names (as opposed to the use of such domain names);

Detailed topics subject to “Consensus Policy” are defined in the gTLD Registry and Registrar Agreements.
The general policy making authority granted to ICANN to preserve the stability and security of the DNS and the policy authority described in previous slide create a “picket fence” around ICANN’s authority.

ICANN could establish policy and/or best practices affecting issues outside the picket fence, but could not mandate registry and registrar compliance with such policies.
Further Reading

GNSO Working Group Guidelines
The objective of the GNSO Working Group Guidelines is to assist Working Groups to optimize productivity and effectiveness.

The main elements of importance to Working Group members covered are:
- First meeting of the Working Group
- Working Group Member Roles and Responsibilities
- Use of sub-teams, briefings and subject matter experts
- Participation and Representativeness
- Process integrity, Behavior and norms
- Standard Methodology for Making Decisions
- Appeal process
- Communication and collaboration tools
- Products & Output
• Outlines available designations for WGs to indicate support for policy recommendations
• Chair is responsible for determining level of support – iterative process
• Current designations: Full consensus, consensus, strong support but significant opposition, divergence, minority view
Further Reading

• GNSO Working Group Guidelines Summary -

• GNSO Working Group Guidelines -
Tips & Tricks
Finding Your Way Around

- [http://gnso.icann.org](http://gnso.icann.org)
- Review core materials such as GNSO Operating Procedures which include GNSO WG Guidelines and PDP Manual [http://gnso.icann.org/en/council/procedures](http://gnso.icann.org/en/council/procedures)
- Review current GNSO projects (Action Items) [http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active](http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active)
Finding Your Way Around

- Acronym Helper – see GNSO home page
- GNSO wikis - [https://community.icann.org/category/gnso](https://community.icann.org/category/gnso)
- ICANN Learn - [http://learn.icann.org/](http://learn.icann.org/)
- Find an experienced WG member either from your SG/C to provide guidance / answer questions
- Contact the GNSO Policy Staff
Thank You & Questions?