

Description 1 - Invitation for Statements of Interest document

Position Roles, Eligibility Factors, and Time Commitments

Position: Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council

Number of Seats: Two (2)

Start of Term: After conclusion of Annual Meeting 2015

End of Term: Conclusion of Annual Meeting 2017

The GNSO is a policy-development body responsible for developing and recommending to the ICANN Board substantive policies relating to generic top-level domains. The GNSO consists of four Stakeholder Groups (SG) that include various Constituencies representing defined groups of stakeholders and a GNSO Council responsible for managing the policy development and administrative processes of the GNSO. The GNSO Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies choose the majority of the Council members; the NomCom chooses three Council members with staggered terms. The GNSO Council also includes one liaison each from the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) and the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO).

The GNSO Council is divided into two houses for voting purposes only. The Contracted Party House is currently made up of two stakeholder groups (SGs): the gTLD Registrars SG and the gTLD Registries SG. The Non-Contracted Parties House consists of two SGs: the Commercial SG and the Non-Commercial SG. One NomCom selectee is assigned as a voting member to each house and the third selectee to the Council as a whole as a non-voting member.

GNSO Council members receive no compensation for their services as GNSO Council members. ICANN provides administrative and operational support necessary for the GNSO to conduct its responsibilities through the GNSO Secretariat. ICANN also provides staff support for policy development. As stated in the ICANN Bylaws, such support shall not necessarily include an obligation for ICANN to fund travel expenses incurred by GNSO participants for travel to any meeting of the GNSO or for any other purpose. However, ICANN has customarily furnished limited travel expenses for NomCom appointed Council members to attend ICANN meetings. This custom is planned to continue, but is subject to availability of funds and ongoing refinement of the ICANN travel policy.

The NomCom will use the Criteria for Selection of ICANN Directors in choosing selectees for the GNSO Council. GNSO Council members are expected to support the ICANN mission and the implementation of ICANN's Core Values.

Role of the NomCom Selectee

As mentioned above, the majority of the GNSO Council members are appointed by the Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies and represent those constituencies in the Council. NomCom selectees, on the other hand, are not the representatives of any specific group, though they may choose to represent the interests of groups that are not currently represented in Council. Most importantly, NomCom selectees should be people chosen, often from outside the GNSO constituencies and sometime from outside ICANN, who bring a fresh perspective to the Council and who accept the responsibility to do their best to support ICANN in its mission and core values.

Selectees should be people who can help the GNSO Council perform its duties; sometimes this may involve filling gaps in the skill set, at other times it may involve achieving diversity or other demographic balance or may involve bringing a necessary perspective or skill into the Council that is not already present. Generally, a selectee needs to fulfill several of these needs concurrently.

The NomCom will also take into account the following eligibility factors and additional considerations.

GNSO Council Eligibility Factors

No person who serves on the NomCom in any capacity is eligible for selection by any means to any position on the Board or any other ICANN body having one or more membership positions that the NomCom is responsible for filling, until the conclusion of an ICANN annual meeting that coincides with, or is after, the conclusion of that person's service on the Nominating Committee. (Bylaws, Article VII, Section 8, *see* <http://www.icann.org/general/bylaws.htm#VII-8.>)

No more than one officer, director, or employee of any particular corporation or other organization (including its subsidiaries and affiliates) shall serve on the GNSO Council at any given time. (Bylaws, Article X, Section 3(5), *see* <http://www.icann.org/general/bylaws.htm#X-3.5.>)

Additional Considerations

For the GNSO Council position, specific experience related to the scope of the GNSO's work with the Domain Name System would be advantageous. The current composition of the GNSO Council is available here <http://gns0.icann.org/en/about/gns0-council.htm>

The Bylaws limit the number of consecutive terms GNSO Council members may serve to two.

Time Commitment

The basic responsibilities of a GNSO Council member involve a minimum of 20 hours per month on Council related activities, with those chairing or participating in committees or task forces spending up to 60 hours a month or more. Depending on workload, for

example, during the weeks before ICANN's three face-to-face Public Meetings, the time commitment can sometimes escalate to as much as 20 hours per week or more. The commitment during ICANN's three Public Meetings generally consists of three days, with Council members sometimes having extensive responsibilities on most days. For those involved in Task Forces or Working Groups, there may occasionally be additional face-to-face interim meetings, and likely telephonic meetings throughout the year.

Council members are not compensated for either time or teleconference costs, though ICANN makes toll free numbers available whenever practical.

Additional GNSO Criteria:

There are various criteria that should be considered when judging GNSO candidates. The first set is general and should be present in anyone appointed to the GNSO Council, while the second set reflects a diversity of skills that may be necessary. Depending on the composition of the current Council, these skill-based criteria will vary from year to year.

Baseline Criteria for anyone selected as a NomCom selectee:

- Demonstrated experience working effectively in collaborative environments involving diverse interests.
- Ability to lead, or otherwise assist, a multi-stakeholder group in reaching consensus
- Basic knowledge of DNS systems and industry structure (registries, registrars, registrants). The goal is not to find technical DNS experts, but a basic understanding of the DNS is needed to function effectively on the Council. For example, selectees should understand the high level answer to the following question: "Do you know what happens in the DNS when you send an email, or access a webpage?". This requires an understanding of the general process of name resolution without requiring precise technical knowledge.

Variable Criteria that are useful to the GNSO:

Part of the role of NomCom selectees is to fill gaps in the skill set of the Council. Some but not all of the skills that are highly useful in the process of GNSO Council work are listed below. The skills needed will vary year by year.

- Knowledge of and experience with:
 - International Law
 - Competition law
 - Public interest issues
 - Consumer rights
 - Human rights
 - Privacy and data protection laws and implications
 - Economics, especially market analysis
 - Market mechanisms and dynamics
 - Business principles

- Intergovernmental expertise
- Experience with other Internet governance forums
- International policy mechanisms
- Business processes and constraints
- IDN expertise
- DNS security expertise
- Establishing dispute and objection processes
- Enforcement procedures and processes
- Application software development - e.g. multi-lingual support
- Online collaborative work and consensus building technologies - wiki's etc.
- Statistics and survey analysis
- Project management and document control processes

Additionally consideration may be given to Candidates who can improve the geographical or gender balance on the Council as needed, as long as other necessary attributes and skills are also present.

Description 2 - NomCom Leadership Positions document

ICANN Generic Names Supporting Organization Council

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) is a policy-development body responsible for developing and recommending to the ICANN Board substantive policies relating to generic top-level domains. The GNSO Council is responsible for managing the policy development process in the GNSO. For more information on the work of the GNSO Council, see <http://gns0.icann.org/>.

To fill one vacancy on the GNSO Council, the NomCom is seeking accomplished persons of integrity, objectivity and intelligence who have:

- a commitment to ICANN's mission and an understanding of the potential impact of ICANN decisions on the global Internet community,
- an understanding of the DNS and the industry structure of the domain name market
- demonstrated capacity for thoughtful group decision-making and sound judgment,
- an ability to chair or otherwise support a multi-stakeholder group in reaching consensus
- expertise in the possible impacts and benefits of new gTLDs on the stakeholders in the GNSO, including commercial and non-commercial users, Internet infrastructure providers, and ICANN contracted parties.
- a willingness to serve as a volunteer, without compensation other than the reimbursement of certain expenses, and
- an ability to work and communicate in written and spoken English (although there is no requirement that English be the candidate's first language)

In filling these positions, the NomCom will be seeking to select Council members who reflect the global diversity of the Internet community and the wide range of technical, commercial and public interest activities that are impacted by the DNS.

Time Commitment and Working Practice

The successful candidates will be appointed to the GNSO Council following the 2015 ICANN Annual Meeting, which is currently scheduled for [date] through the end of the ICANN Annual Meeting in 2015, which is currently scheduled for [date].

The basic responsibilities of a GNSO Council member involve a minimum of 20 hours per month on Council related activities, with those chairing or participating in Working Groups or Task Forces spending up to 60 hours a month or more. Depending on workload, for example, during the weeks before ICANN's three face-to-face public meetings per year, this can sometimes escalate to as much as 20 hours per week or more. The commitment during ICANN's three public meetings generally runs about three days with council members sometimes having extensive responsibilities on most days. For those involved in Task Forces or Working Groups, there may occasionally be additional face-to-face interim meetings, and likely telephonic meeting throughout the year.