New gTLDs

What are the public policy issues?

What role should the GAC have?

GAC: São Paulo December 2006
New gTLDs

• Public policy issues:
  – Fairness, transparency, accountability
  – Promoting consumer choice and competition
  – DNS Stability
  – Public order issues
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- Fairness, transparency, accountability
  - Procedures need to be objective and justified
  - Decisions need to be open to public scrutiny
  - Adequate appeal procedures
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- Promoting consumer choice and competition
  - How to facilitate new entrants to the market?
  - Barriers to entry: any restrictions need to be justified
  - Should the market determine TLD success?
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- DNS Stability
  - How many new TLDs can be introduced?
  - What is the impact on root server operators?
  - Is business failure of a TLD a “stability” issue?
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- Public order issues
  - Obscene or offensive strings: how can we agree on what is obscene or offensive?
  - Content-related issues?
  - Geographic names:
    - Country names only?
    - Other geographic identifiers?
    - Which languages?
    - IDNS?
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• What role should the GAC have?
  – GAC is an advisory body
  – GAC should limit itself to public policy issues
  – GAC principles should offer framework guidance that is “future proof”
  – Should GAC be involved in the selection process unless “something goes wrong”? 
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GAC principles
• First draft circulated after Vancouver
• Third draft after Sao Paulo
• Objective to adopt in Lisbon
• IDNs
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GAC principles
• General framework guidance based on:
  – ICANN’s core values
  – WSIS provisions
• Some specifics:
  – Geographic names
  – No two/three letter ISO codes