



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

## Noncommercial Stakeholders Group Petition Form

### Important Notices:

(1) The purpose of this document is to formally petition the ICANN Board for approval to form a GNSO Stakeholder Group (SG) consistent with the recent Board decisions regarding GNSO Council restructuring. Its submission, receipt, acceptance, or acknowledgement should not be construed as implicit or explicit Board approval of the proposed SG.

(2) In addition to the Board, this submission will be publicly posted [Note: phone and fax numbers supplied below are for contact purposes only and will not be shared publicly].

Submit to ICANN Board at [...] [Note: If you do not receive a confirmation after submittal or have questions, please contact [policy-staff@icann.org](mailto:policy-staff@icann.org)].

Stakeholder Group Name:	Noncommercial Stakeholder Group
Your Name:	Robin Gross, Mary Wong, William Drake, Norbert Klein, Carlos de Souza, Carlos Afonso, Milton Mueller, Dave Kisoondoyal, Georg Greve, Horacio Cadiz, Robert Guerra
Your Company/Organization:	Noncommercial Users Constituency
Tel. Number:	
Fax Number:	
Email Address:	
Submission Date:	March 16, 2009

### Purpose and Assumptions

*This template model was assembled by ICANN Policy Staff to guide and assist (not prescribe) new Stakeholder Groups in the construction of their charter documents. It is organized into major thematic headings with individual sections containing keywords/phrases intended to suggest specific content that, when completed, would describe the SG's rules, procedures, and/or practices for that element. This particular template model assumes that, over time, there will be multiple constituencies per Stakeholder Group.*

*The Stakeholder Group (SG), as an entity made up of formally recognized constituencies, would only concern itself with matters relevant to the interaction of those constituencies (e.g. SG membership and*



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

*GNSO Council seat allocation) and would not, as a general practice, prescribe activities inside or within constituencies that are otherwise the province of those constituencies and the ICANN Board.*

## 1.0 Mission and Principles

### 1.1 Mission

The Noncommercial Users Stakeholders Group ("NCSG") of ICANN's Generic Name Supporting Organization (GNSO) is constituted according to Article X, Section 5, Part 1e of the Bylaws of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). The purposes of the NCSG are to represent the views and interests of those who engage in noncommercial expression and activity on the Internet as they pertain to domain name policy. It provides a voice and representation in ICANN processes to: non-profit organizations that serve non-commercial interests; nonprofit services such as education, community organizing, promotion of the arts, public interest policy advocacy, children's welfare, religion, scientific research, and human rights; families or individuals who register domain names for noncommercial personal use; and Internet users who are primarily concerned with the noncommercial, public interest aspects of domain name policy and are not represented in ICANN through membership in another Supporting Organization or GNSO Stakeholder Group.

### 1.2 Principles

The NCSG is committed to the following governance principles:

- a) *Nondiscriminatory and impartial application of rules.* The NCSG is intended to provide a representational vehicle for all noncommercial stakeholders; no noncommercial organization or noncommercial individual should be denied membership and no constituency or coalition within it denied the right to participate and associate on the basis of their political views or policy positions, or on the basis of their religious belief (or lack thereof), national origin, gender, sexual orientation, race or ethnicity.
- b) *Transparency.* Meetings of the Policy Committee must be announced in advance and participation details made available to eligible participants in a timely fashion. Minutes of the meetings must be released to the membership in a timely fashion. Discussions on NCSG's general email list shall be publicly archived. Financial reports will be available to members within 30 days of receipt of the member's request.



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

c) *Service standards for elected officers.* NCSG officers hold a collective trust and are expected to be fair and responsible stewards of the group's activities. The Chair in particular is expected to look after the general interests of the Stakeholder Group and to be responsive to all members and officers in their requests for information. Term limits and regular elections, as well as removal procedures for nonperforming or corrupt officers, are intended to keep officers accountable and responsive.

d) *Equality of participation.* The NCSG is based on an integrated voting model and a unified administrative structure. This is done to facilitate the achievement of consensus among noncommercial stakeholders and to ensure that all members have the same access to information and the same voting power regardless of which subgroup or constituency they are affiliated with.

e) *Encourage Consensus.* The NCSG model seeks to encourage communication, cooperation, and consensus building among an extremely broad range of noncommercial interests by holding GNSO Council elections open to the entire SG membership. This will ensure that candidates must appeal to a wide range of interests within the SG and attempt to build consensus among competing views for support.

## **2.0 Organization and Membership**

### **2.1 Composition**

The NCSG shall consist of three distinct parts: the Membership, Constituencies, and a Policy Committee. The Membership shall consist of all organizations and individuals that meet the NCSG Membership criteria and complete the processes set out in Section 2.2.

The Policy Committee serves as a vehicle for the discussion and development of policies and statements issued in the name of the NCSG, organizes policy initiatives on behalf of NCSG, and can provide policy research and guidance to NCSG GNSO Council members. The PC is responsible for supervising and monitoring the Chair's performance of executive functions, and can recommend removal of a Chair. The PC is also responsible for reviewing and approving applications to form new constituencies. The Policy Committee structure is more fully set out in Section 3.3 below.

Constituencies are self-organized groupings of NCSG members that give voice to specific policy perspectives or stakeholders contained within the noncommercial stakeholder grouping. Formation of constituencies and their representation and duties within the NCSG are set out in Section 2.3, below.



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

## 2.2 NCSG Membership

Primary Membership in the NCSG is in the Noncommercial Stakeholder Group as a whole. Eligible members join the NCSG, and once they become members they can form or join up to three different Constituencies at any one time. There are three categories of membership in the NCSG: small organizations, large organizations, and individuals.

2.2.1. Eligible organizations. Large and small organizations meeting the following criteria are eligible for membership in the Stakeholder Group:

1. Organizations incorporated or otherwise legally established as a non-commercial entity (in countries that have such a provision in their corporation law);
2. Unincorporated organizations, or organizations operating in a country without provisions for non-commercial incorporation, that operate on a not-for-profit basis primarily for non-commercial purposes;
3. The organization must be the exclusive user of at least one domain name used primarily for noncommercial purposes. This can be verified by its listing as the registrant and/or administrative contact in the WHOIS data of the domain name, by the name resolving to a website controlled by and representing the organization, or other indications that demonstrate to the EC that the prospective Member Organization is the primary user of a domain name.
4. The organization must be engaged in activities that are primarily non-commercial, including but not limited to, e.g., political advocacy, educational, religious, charitable, scientific and artistic purposes.

2.2.2. Ineligible organizations. The membership of the NCSG specifically excludes:

1. Political organizations whose primary purpose is to hold government office and/or to elect government officials;
2. Commercial organizations and associations of or for the benefit of commercial entities (even if they are non-profit in form) such as industry trade associations;
3. Organizations that provide services under contract or a Memorandum of Understanding with ICANN;
4. Organizations that are represented in ICANN through another Supporting Organization or another GNSO Stakeholder Group. However, organizations and individuals that participate in ICANN's At Large Advisory Committee are not excluded by this criterion, though they may be excluded by the other three.

2.2.3. Organizational representation within NCSG.

Each Member organization, in its application, shall appoint an individual to serve as the Official Representative to the NCSG. Such individual will hold the powers of



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

voting and speaking publicly for the organizational Member within the NCSG. The Official Representative must be formally authorized to represent the Member Organization by a responsible official of that organization. The NCSG Secretary-Treasurer and Chair are authorized to make inquiries to the Member Organization to verify their selection. Members can change their Official Representative in two ways: 1) the Director of the Member Organization can notify the Secretary of the change; or 2) the existing Official Representative can resign and submit to the Secretary the name of the new Official Representative (the new Official Representative must also be authorized and verified). If an Official Representative holds an elective office in the NCSG, Members cannot change their Official Representative until the individual's term of office is completed, unless the individual resigns from the position. Member organizations may also designate additional individuals to serve as Additional Representatives to the NCSG. Such Additional Representatives may not vote, but otherwise may participate in NCSG mailing lists, discussions and meetings including GNSO working groups and task forces. The Policy Committee shall, at its discretion, determine limits to the total number of Additional Representatives that may be appointed (provided the limit shall apply to all Stakeholder Group Members equally). The Policy Committee shall create procedural rules for existing members to maintain their status as members.

## 2.2.4 Large organizations and small organizations.

- a. Organizations that have more than 50 employees, or are membership organizations with more than 500 individual members, shall be classified as “large organizations” and afforded 4 votes in NCSG elections.
- b. Organizations that are composed of 10 or more organizational members that qualify as “large” under criterion a. above shall be classified as “large organizations” and afforded 4 votes in NCSG elections.
- c. Organizations that do not qualify as large organizations shall be classified as “small organizations” and afforded 2 votes in NCSG elections.

## 2.2.5. Individuals. Noncommercial individuals can also be members of the NCSG.

### 2.2.5.1. Eligible individuals include:

- a) Individuals who register domain names for personal or family uses of a predominantly noncommercial nature;
- b) Individual Internet users who are primarily concerned with the public interest aspects of domain name policy and are not represented in ICANN through membership in another GNSO Stakeholder Group or the country code Names Supporting Organization;



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

- c) Individuals employed by or members of larger noncommercial organizations, such as universities, colleges, or large nongovernmental organizations, who find it too difficult or lack the standing to get their entity to join NCSG on an organizational basis.

When applying for membership individuals must declare which of the above three categories should be applied to them. The individual's eligibility must be evaluated by the Chair based primarily on that declaration and on other available information about the individual's activities. (Membership can be appealed to the Policy Committee as noted in 2.2.6.)

## 2.2.5.2. Ineligible individuals:

- d) Individuals who are already represented in ICANN through voting membership in the ccNSO or another GNSO Stakeholder Group. However, organizations and individuals that participate in ICANN's At Large Advisory Committee are not excluded by this criterion, though they may be excluded by other criteria as stated herein;
- e) Individuals who register domain names and participate in ICANN policy making activities for business purposes – e.g., investors in the domain name market, for profit legal practitioners, sole proprietorship businesses, and professional consultants – and are mainly concerned with the way domain name policy affects their business activity. Normally, such individuals should be represented through the Commercial Users Stakeholder Group. It is possible, however, for individuals in this category to be accepted as category b) members (as defined above) if they are not ineligible due to their own or their organization's membership in another GNSO SG or the ccNSO, and the Executive Committee and Chair have found that their primary concern is a noncommercial public interest aspect of domain name policy and that their membership would advance the mission of the NCSG.
- f) Individuals who the Executive Committee and Chair determine are linked organizationally and financially to the Internet policy-related lobbying activities of specific commercial firms or governments.

## 2.2.5.3. Individual members shall be given one vote in NCSG elections.

2.2.6. Prospective members shall take the following steps to notify the NCSG of their desire to join:

1. Complete an application form, which can be downloaded from the NCSG's website.
2. Submit the completed form and the required fee (if any) to the Chair or Secretary-Treasurer of the Stakeholder Group.



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

3. (Organizations only) Designate an Official Representative and any Additional Representatives to the Stakeholder Group.
4. Membership shall become complete upon notification of acceptance by the Stakeholder Group Chair, or the Secretary-Treasurer acting with the approval of the Chair. The Policy Committee serves as an appeals Board for decisions challenged by members or prospective members.

2.2.7. Noncommercial Stakeholder Group Member Rights. The NCSG Membership shall have the following participation rights in regard to the administration and policy development processes of the Stakeholder Group:

1. Elect the Chair and the NCSG's GNSO Council representatives;
2. Run for, or nominate other Members to, positions elected by the general membership by means of timely notification of the membership via its main communication organ, a publicly archived email discussion list of the entire NCSG membership (the "public list").
3. Be given timely notice of all meetings called by the Chair and all policy development processes, position papers or advices developed by the Policy Committee and afforded an opportunity to comment on them. Notification takes place on the public list.
4. Submit agenda items to NCSG meetings and Policy Committee meetings. The submission must be made at least ten days before the meeting. If there are too many agenda items to include them all in the time available, the Chair can require that they be seconded by two other Members.
5. Propose NCSG charter amendments. A petition of fifteen percent (15%) of the then-current members shall be sufficient for putting a charter amendment on the ballot for consideration at the next regular election.
6. Participate in GNSO Working Groups, GNSO Task Forces, GNSO Drafting Groups, and similar GNSO policy development groups.

## 2.3 Constituencies.

Constituencies are self-defined groupings of NCSG members organized around some shared policy goals (e.g. consumer protection, privacy); shared identity (e.g., region or country of origin, gender, language group); type of organization (e.g., research networks, philanthropic foundations) – or any other grouping principle that might affect members' stance on domain names policy.

### 2.3.1 Provisions for new constituency formation and inclusion within NCSG.

To be recognized as a NCSG Constituency, there are five distinct steps:



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

- 1) A NCSG member and prospective constituency organizer issues a notification of intent to form a constituency to the entire NCSG via the NCSG public list and to the ICANN Board.
- 2) When at least 3 organizational members or at least 10 individual NCSG members volunteer to join the Constituency on the public list within two months of the publication of the notification of intent the prospective Constituency becomes eligible to schedule a meeting (which can be either in person or online). The Policy Committee must affirm when this stage has been reached.
- 3) The eligible constituency holds a public meeting(s) to draft a charter and appoint an official representative of the constituency. The meeting(s) can be online but must be open to observation by the general public. The charter defines the constituency's grouping principle, eligibility criteria, and operational procedures. The meeting should also designate a single official representative, and other officers if so desired. Only one official representative is required.
- 4) The proposed constituency charter is submitted to the NCSG Policy Committee for ratification. Ratification is based *exclusively* on due diligence on the following factors:
  - a. Whether the membership threshold has really been met (i.e., at least 3 organizational members and 3 individual members or 10 individual members are committed to it and show up for and participate in the formative meeting(s);
  - b. Whether their official representative has agreed to perform the required functions;
  - c. Whether the constituency's eligibility rules or procedures contravene the NCSG charter in some way. (E.g., do they promote commercial interests, recruit commercial members).
  - d. The Policy Committee may not use agreement or disagreement with the prospective constituency's political views as a criterion for recognition.
- 5) Once accepted by the PC the constituency application will be sent to the ICANN Board for approval. The Board shall also serve as the vehicle for appeals to NCSG decisions on the recognition of a constituency.

Constituencies have a right to:

1. Place one voting representative on the Policy Committee;
2. Delegate members to GNSO working groups and task forces;
3. Issue statements on GNSO Policy Development Processes which are included in the official NCSG response, but marked as constituency positions, and not necessarily the position of NCSG as a whole.

There is no requirement that NCSG members join a constituency. NCSG members can join a maximum of three NCSG constituencies at any one time, provided that they meet each



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

constituency's eligibility criteria. Constituencies keep track of their own membership, but members should reflect their status on the official NCSG social network website. The status of Constituencies is reviewed by the PC bi-annually to see if they still meet the membership threshold and to check for multiple memberships that exceed the 3-constituency limit.

Constituencies can exclude NCSG members who apply to join them based on an objective and nondiscriminatory application of their eligibility criteria. For example, a Constituency formed of Chinese-language speaking members could exclude someone who did not speak Chinese. Members who believe that they have been unfairly declared ineligible can appeal the decision to the Policy Committee and/or the ICANN Board.

## 3.0 NCSG Officers

NCSG members shall directly elect the following leadership positions: the NCSG Chair and the GNSO Council representatives. NCSG Constituencies shall each elect one official representative to the Policy Committee, according to rules and formulas they establish for themselves. The elected Councilors and Constituencies' official representatives shall elect the following leadership positions on a one person, one-vote basis: the Convener of the Policy Committee and the Secretary of the NCSG. (See section 3.5.1 for election procedures.)

### 3.1 The NCSG Chair.

The NCSG Chair (the Chair) is responsible for the overall administration of the Noncommercial Stakeholder Group. Specific duties include:

- 3.1.1. Maintaining the official NCSG membership list;
- 3.1.2. Establishing and managing the public communication facilities required by the charter;
- 3.1.3. Organizing and chairing meetings and teleconferences of the SG, overseeing the timely preparation of an agenda and the timely publication of meeting notes;
- 3.1.4. Liaising with the other SG Chairs and with ICANN on administrative matters;
- 3.1.5. Overseeing membership recruitment, processing, and retention;
- 3.1.6. Prepare budget requests, as necessary, for approval by the PC;
- 3.1.7. Decide whether applicants for membership meet the NCSG eligibility criteria or to pass them to the full PC for challenge or review;
- 3.1.8. Act as a spokesperson for the SG on matters outside the Policy Committee's purview;
- 3.1.9. Establish ballots for voting, for review by the PC;
- 3.1.10. Provide oversight of the Policy Committee's process and good communication with the constituency membership;
- 3.1.11. Whenever PC votes are required by the charter but inaction by certain members of the PC prevents tasks and duties required by the charter to be executed, the Chair is empowered to act to further the interests of the constituency. In the event of a tie vote on the PC, the Chair shall act as tiebreaker.



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

## 3.3 The NCSG Policy Committee (PC).

3.3.1 The PC shall be composed of the elected NCSG GNSO Council Representatives, one delegate from each recognized NCSG constituency, and the NCSG Chair. Each PC member has one vote in committee matters.

3.3.2 The functions and duties of the PC are to:

- a) supervise, develop, and approve policy statements issued in the name of the NCSG;
- b) initiate GNSO policy development research and proceedings on behalf of the NCSG;
- c) help constituencies identify and recruit NCSG members or supporters to serve on GNSO Working Groups, task forces, and drafting teams;
- d) upon the request of one or more NCSG GNSO Council Representatives, to provide advice on how the NCSG GNSO Councilors should vote or what position to take on specific GNSO policy issues;
- e) monitor and supervise the activities of the Chair, approve budget requests and travel funding allocations, review membership applications when the Chair's decision is challenged, and approves agendas and meeting plans;
- f) develop proposals for the formation of GNSO Working Groups on issues of interest to NCSG members as follows: If the creation of a proposed GNSO Working Group obtains the support of one-third or more of the Constituency representatives on the Policy Committee, all NCSG GNSO Council members are required to support the formation of that Working Group in a Council-wide vote. The Councilors are also required to articulate the rationale for the Working Group in Council deliberations. If a Working Group proposal fails to gain the requisite support of the Policy Committee, the proposer can call for a NCSG membership vote in the next NCSG election. If the proposal obtains the support of 20% of the NCSG membership in said vote, all NCSG GNSO Council members are required to support the formation of that Working Group in a Council vote, and are required to make a motion in the GNSO Council to form the WG and articulate the rationale for the Working Group in GNSO Council deliberations.

3.3.3. The Policy Committee shall select its own Convener, who chairs and administers its meetings, keeps records of its conclusions, and conveys its decisions or documents to the appropriate parties. The NCSG Chair is eligible to be the Convener but the position could be held by the election of any other PC member.



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

3.3.4. The PC will have its own communication organ including an email list. The PC email list should be archived and its access should be restricted to NCSG members.

## 3.4 NCSG GNSO Council Representatives

3.4.1. NCSG GNSO Council Representatives are responsible for actively monitoring and participating in the activities of the GNSO Council and advancing the goals of the NCSG in the GNSO Policy Development Process. Their function is to translate the common goals and priorities of the Noncommercial Users Stakeholders Group into ICANN GNSO-approved policies, and to oppose and prevent the passage of those policies deemed harmful to the interests of NCSG members.

3.4.2. GNSO Council Representatives are elected directly by all NCSG members in an annual SG-wide vote. Each annual vote will elect three of the six NCSG GNSO Council Representatives to two-year terms.

3.4.3. NCSG members whose membership is confirmed less than 90 days before the election will not be eligible to vote in that election. Only NCSG members are eligible to run for NCSG GNSO Council seats.

3.4.4. As a transitional provision, the first election for the June 2009 ICANN meeting will elect three (3) NCSG Council Representatives, and the terms of the 3 NCUC Council Representatives elected in October 2008 will run until June 2010.

3.4.5. Geographical & Regional Diversity. Of the 6 NCSG GNSO Council seats, only two seats may be held by representatives of the same ICANN geographic region at any one time. Candidates for GNSO Council can base their region on either citizenship or residence, but must declare which criterion they are using when accepting their nomination.

3.4.6. Two Term Limit. There is a two term limit on the number of consecutive terms for which an individual may be elected to serve on the GNSO Council from NCSG. Each term consists of a period of two consecutive years.

## 3.5 NCSG Decision-Making, Voting and Election Procedures.

3.5.1. NCSG elections will be held annually. The NCSG Chair shall be elected annually by the entire NCSG membership. GNSO Council members shall be elected



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

to two-year terms in a staggered manner such that 3 Councilors shall be elected each year (unless there are more than 3 vacancies to fill in any year).

3.5.2. The election process (including receiving nominations, communicating nominations, arranging for online voting and publishing the results) will be initiated and managed by the Secretary of the NCSG.

3.5.3. Annual elections shall commence on the second Monday of October each calendar year. A nomination period of two weeks shall precede the voting period of an election. Any current member of the NCSG may nominate candidates for Chair and GNSO Council. Nominees must be current members of NCSG and must indicate their acceptance of the nomination prior to the election's commencement.

3.5.4. Within one week following the close of the nomination period, the Secretary will open a voting period of one week, during which it will receive votes from members of the SG electronically, typically via email.

3.5.5 With respect to the election for NCSG GNSO Council Representatives (size, number, and distribution of votes):

- a) NCSG members classified as "individuals" will be given 3 votes and must assign 1 vote each to 3 candidates.
- b) NCSG members classified as "small organizations" will be given 6 votes and must assign 2 votes to each of 3 candidates.
- c) NCSG members classified as "large organizations" will be given 12 votes and must assign 4 votes to each of 3 candidates.

3.5.6 With respect to the election of NCSG Chair (size and number of votes):

- a) NCSG members classified as "individuals" will be given 1 vote.
- b) NCSG members classified as "small organizations" will be given 2 votes.
- c) NCSG members classified as "large organizations" will be given 4 votes.

3.5.7. Constraints on GNSO Council Voting.

Generally, NCSG Council Representatives are authorized to vote on GNSO Council matters as they think best reflects the interests of the Noncommercial Stakeholder Group members and their own best judgment of the public interest; however, policy positions that reach broad consensus within the NCSG Policy Committee are binding



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

on the NCSG Councilors' votes cast on the GNSO Council. As per section 3.3.3 above, NCSG GNSO Council members are strictly bound to support the formation of Working Groups that meet the defined thresholds of support on the GNSO Council.

## 3.5.8 Death, resignation and replacement of officers.

a) In the event of the death, incapacitation, or resignation of the Chair, the Policy Committee shall, under the direction of the Secretary, elect one of its members to serve as interim Chair. If the remaining term of the original Chair is greater than six (6) months, a new NCSG election shall be organized. If it is less than six months the interim Chair will serve out the remainder of the original Chair's term.

b) An elected GNSO Council Representative is deemed to resign his/her position when the said representative does not attend and fails to proxy his/her vote (including GNSO Council permitted "e-votes") for three (3) consecutive GNSO Council meetings (in person or by phone).

c) In the event of the death, incapacitation, or resignation of a GNSO Council Representative, the Chair may appoint a temporary replacement provided diversity requirements for region are maintained. If the remaining term of the original Councilor is greater than six (6) months, a new NCSG election shall be organized by the Chair. If the remaining term is less than six months the appointed Councilor will serve out the remainder of the original Councilor's term. This section applies to resignations due to nonparticipation as per section b) above as well as explicitly stated resignations.

d) In the event of the death, incapacitation, or resignation of any other NCSG Officer, the Chair may appoint a temporary replacement. If the remaining term of the original Officer is greater than six (6) months, a new PC election shall be organized by the Chair. If the remaining term is less than six months the appointed Officer will serve out the remainder of the original Officer's term.

e) The Chair can be recalled and replaced by a 75% vote of the Policy Committee, followed by a NCSG membership vote in which at least 60% of the members voting approve of the Chair's removal. These actions can only take place due to major derelictions of duty, such as repeated failure to organize and/or attend meetings required by the charter, maladministration of membership in a way that disenfranchises prospective participants, consistently discriminatory treatment of members, or other clear violations of the charter that damage the effectiveness and reputation of the NCSG.

## 3.6 Meetings and Communications



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

The Chair is responsible for ensuring that the NCSG will meet as a whole during the ICANN meetings on a day selected by the Chair in consultation with the Policy Committee to maximize the SG's potential to influence decisions of the GNSO Council and ICANN Board decisions.

The Convener of the PC shall determine the agenda and meeting schedule of the PC, but it must convene at least twice a year either online or in person at an ICANN public meeting that facilitates remote participation.

## 3.6.1 Policy decisions.

NCSG GNSO Council Representatives and the Policy Committee Convener must use the public NCSG list to inform the entire NCSG membership of:

- a) The initiation of new GNSO Working Groups or new GNSO policy development processes;
- b) The content of GNSO Working Group charters;
- c) GNSO public comment periods;

Whenever possible, the public list should be used to notify the membership two weeks in advance of any final votes on policies.

## 3.6.2 Social Network Site

There shall be a publicly accessible online Social Network site (SNS) that serves as the basic platform for NCSG public records and statements. All member organizations and individuals must have a page in that site visible to other NCSG members. The page associated with the member will maintain current, accurate information about the member's official representative, contact information, the type of member (large org, small org, individual), and its status within the NCSG (e.g., Council Representative, Chair, PC Representative, Constituency Representative). Each recognized constituency will also have a node within the NCSG SNS. When a member joins a Constituency, the member will maintain a link to that node on the SNS. When a member departs from the Constituency, they remove the link. Basic NCSG documents (its charter, policy documents, etc.) shall be made available on the SNS site, which shall be maintained by the Chair or PC Convener as appropriate. Access to such documents can be regulated by the Chair in line with NCSG policies. The SNS website shall also maintain a link to archives of the publicly available discussion lists of the NCSG.



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

3.6.3 There shall be a NCSG email mailing list that provides the basic communication organ of the NCSG (the public list). This email list shall be used for making stake-holder group wide announcements and for discussion of policies and practices.

3.6.4 There shall be an email mailing list exclusively for Policy Committee members. This will be archived and accessible to NCSG members only.

## 4.0 Outreach

- 4.1 The Chair and PC are responsible for raising money and other activities needed to recruit new members and to publicize the activities of the SG.
- 4.2 Budget permitting, NCSG will strive to hold an outreach meeting at each ICANN public meeting oriented towards encouraging participation from the local Internet community.

## 5.0 Amendments

Version	Date	Name	Description
1.0	11/10/08		First draft sent to ncuc executive committee
2.0	11/12/08	Milton Mueller	Some changes made in response to comments by Mary Wong and Bill Drake (3 constituency limit)
2.1	11/13/08	Robin Gross	Editing and comments
2.2	11/13/08	Norbert Klein	Suggestions
3.0	11/15/08	Milton Mueller	Consolidates suggestions of Robin and Norbert and sends to NCUC-discuss and ALAC principals
	11/16/08	Norbert Klein	A number of clarification edits proposed
	11/17/08	Bill Drake, Adam Peake	Issue of residency vs. citizenship raised, receives support on list
3.1	11/24/08	Milton Mueller	Consolidates comments of Klein, Drake and sends version 3.1 to Board
4.0	1/29/09	Milton Mueller, Robin Gross,	Eliminates Executive Committee and amends duties of Policy Committee in response to staff comments



# DRAFT Stakeholder Group Petition and Charter

Version	Date	Name	Description
4.1	23 Feb 2009	M. Mueller, following comments from staff, discussions with A. Greenberg, Danny Younger, Beau Brendler, Brenden Kuerbis, Kim Heitman, Robin Gross	Responds to and corrects staff comments; Eliminates all mentions of the Executive Committee; Adds election procedures; adds replacement and resignation of officers
5.0	28 Feb. 2009	Robin Gross, Brenden Kuerbis, Milton Mueller	Responds to remaining concerns and another round of calls, comments, and edits.
6.0	13 Mar. 2009	Brenden Kuerbis following comments in meeting with ICANN Board Governance Committee members, NCUC with At-Large meeting, Bill Drake, Carlos Affonso Pereira de Souza, Mary Wong, Robin Gross, Milton Mueller	Revised based on Mexico discussions and added ICANN Board final approval of Constituencies (Section 2.3.1). Extended voting eligibility period for Members to 90 days (Section 3.4.3). Deleted "and at least 3 individual members," requirement from Constituency formation (Section 2.3.1)