GNSO IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM
BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

24 February 2009

Presenters: Rob Hoggarth, Senior Policy Director
Julie Hedlund, Policy Consultant
GNSO Improvements

Background and Key Objectives

- GNSO is subject to periodic independent review
- Current review began in February 2005
- Key objectives of GNSO review:
  - Maximizing stakeholder participation
  - Ensuring recommendations can be developed on gTLD "consensus policies" for Board review
  - Consensus policies are clearly defined
  - Policy development is based on thoroughly-researched, well-scoped objectives and operated in a predictable manner to ensure effective implementation
  - Improving communications and administrative support
Five Main Areas of Improvement

Based on input from the independent reviews, a Working Group of the ICANN Board Governance Committee (BGC-WG) identified these areas for improvement:

- Revise the Policy Development Process
- Adopt Working Group Model
- GNSO Council Restructure
- Enhance Constituencies
- Improve Communications
**ICANN Board Recommendations**

**Revise the PDP Process**

- Align with contractual requirements and Bylaws

- Council: manager of PDP process vs. legislative body

- Preparation: scoping, discussion, research, scheduling

- Flexibility in timing and process steps aligned with effort

- Periodic assessments and PDP effectiveness metrics

- Work Team: develop new process, rules and procedures
ICANN Board Recommendations

Adopt a Working Group (WG) Model

- Participation: open, broad, balanced, knowledgeable
- Strong neutral experienced and respected chair
- Goal: open, honest, respectful consensus
- Statement of interest disclosures
- Staff support, infrastructure and funding
- Work Team: establish charter, procedures and norms
### ICANN Board Recommendations

**Enhance Constituencies**

- All constituencies operate in open, transparent manner
- Processes are standardized, accessible, and democratic
- Participation is global and supports multiple languages
- Centralized directory: up-to-date and publicly accessible
- Staff Support “Toolkit”: outreach, services, admin, et al.
- Work Team: recommend standards and procedures
ICANN Board Recommendations

Improve Communications

- New GNSO web site and collaborative toolsets
- Internationalization: translated portable collateral
- Communication with SOs and ACs
- Improve Board member awareness of GNSO issues
- Coordinate policy activities across ICANN bodies
- Work Team: develop recommendations and procedures
ICANN Board Recommendations

GNSO Council Restructure

- Focus: manage, monitor, and guide Working Groups
- Term limits and statements/declarations of interest
- Benchmark PDP and analyze trends in gTLD arena
- Reorganize to be representative, agile, and collegial
- Organization: four (4) broad Stakeholder Groups
- Work Team: develop recommendations and procedures
New GNSO Council Organization: June 2009

GNSO Council
{20}
(1 NCA)

Contracted
Party House {6+1}

Non-Contracted
Party House {12+1}

Registry Stakeholder Group {3}
- Registries
- Others

Registrar Stakeholder Group {3}
- Registrars
- Others

Commercial Stakeholder Group {6}
- Business
- Intellectual Property
- Internet Svc Prov.
- Others

Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group {6}
- Non Comm’l Users
- Others

Legend: { } Voting; ( ) Non-Voting
GNSO Council Restructure

Phased Implementation Schedule (*)

Phase 1: GNSO Council restructuring implementation plan submitted in advance of the December 2008 Board Meeting

Phase 2: Existing Constituencies submit confirmation documents in advance of the February 2009 Board Meeting

Phase 3: Stakeholder Groups submit formal plans for consideration at the March 2009 Mexico City Board meeting

Phase 4: Council representatives selected and the new GNSO Council is seated by the June 2009 Asia-Pacific ICANN Meeting

(*) Approved by the ICANN on Board: 1 October 2008
GNSO Improvements

Implementation Planning Team (IPT)

- IPT Plan approved by Council on 16 Oct 2008
- Two Steering Committees (SC) recommended:
  - Policy Process Steering Committee (PPSC)
  - Operations Steering Committee (OSC)

  - Focus: processes and practices – not gTLD policies
  - Create and coordinate implementation work teams
  - Oversee development of recommendations
  - Establish team charters and milestones
  - Report to GNSO Council and Board, as appropriate
Steering Committee/Work Team Organization

GNSO Council

Policy Process Steering Committee (PPSC)

New PDP Team (PDPT)

Working Group Team (WGT)

GNSO Operations Team (GOT)

Constituency Operations Team (COT)

Communications Team (CCT)

Operations Steering Committee (OSC)
GNSO Improvements - Work Team Rules (*)

- **Statement of Interest (SOI)**
  - Each participant in a WT provides an up-to-date SOI

- **Decision Making**
  - Model is “Rough Consensus”
    - All points of view are discussed until the Chair can ascertain that the point of view is understood and has been covered
  - Report consensus viewpoint to the Steering Committee in the form of a WT Report
  - Invite minority views to include a discussion in the WT Report
  - Minority view includes names and affiliations of those contributing

- **Reporting**
  - WT Chairs report regular status to the Steering Committee

(*) Draft pending approval by PPSC and OSC
GNSO Improvements - Work Team Rules (*)

- **Milestones**
  - Milestones proposed to the Steering Committee for approval

- **Modifications**
  - At any time, WT Chair should communicate to the Steering Committee if the WT believes that changes or clarifications are needed regarding the WT Charter and/or these rules

- **Record Keeping**
  - The WT will have an archived mailing list open for reading by the community
  - All WT meetings will be recorded and made publicly available
  - A SocialText Wiki will be provided for WT usage

(*) Draft pending approval by PPSC and OSC
GNSO Improvements

Initial Work Team (WT) Activities

- Hold kick-off meeting in Mexico City Feb 28-Mar 1
- Review, discuss, and finalize draft WT Charter
- Identify positions and select team leaders
- Inventory team skills, interest, and expertise
- Discuss scope, goals, and begin formulating tasks
- Establish time and meeting/call frequency
REFERENCES

For Information about:

GNSO Improvements:  http://gnso.icann.org/en/improvements/
Generic Names Supporting Organisation

Welcome to the GNSO Improvements Information Page

Organization of this Site:

The top level drop-down menu structure has been organized into five major sections which include (Note: some topics yet to finalized):

- **Implementation**: information about community chartered teams, groups, and projects
- **Reviews & Board Actions**: results of reviews and committees as well as decisions and resolutions
- **Council Restructure**: documentation relating specifically to restructuring activities and processes
- **Community Reference**: background, overview, public comments, FAQ, terminology
- **News & Links**: notices, current events (3 months), and links to other resources

*Note: each link in the drop-down menus represents an individual page where additional content can be found.*

Reading suggestions to new visitors wishing to learn about the GNSO Improvements effort:
GNSO Improvements - WIKIs

**PPSC:** [https://st.icann.org/icann-ppsc/index.cgi](https://st.icann.org/icann-ppsc/index.cgi)

**OSC:** [https://st.icann.org/icann-osc/index.cgi](https://st.icann.org/icann-osc/index.cgi)
OSC Communications Team

Work Team Members:

- Sedar Acir - Registrar contact for Turkish Registry
- Chris Chaplow - Commercial and Business Users Constituency
- Mason Cole - Registrar Constituency
- Steve Holsten - gTLD Registries Constituency
- Zbynek Loebl - Intellectual Property Interests Constituency
- Catherine Sigmar - gTLD Registries Constituency
- Nick Wood - Intellectual Property Interests Constituency

Draft Work Team Charter:

GNSO COMMUNICATIONS AND COORDINATION TEAM - DRAFT CHARTER (DRAFT 22DEC08)(as amended 9JAN09)

Interim Chair - Mason Cole

I. TEAM CHARTER/GOALS

The GNSO Communications and Coordination Team will develop proposals for Council consideration based on the Board’s endorsement of recommendations outlined in the 3 February 2008 Report of the Board
Thank You!

Policy Staff Resources
Policy-staff@icann.org

Operations Steering Committee: Rob Hoggarth, Sr. Policy Director
GNSO Operations Team: Julie Hedlund, Policy Consultant
Constituency Operations Team: Julie Hedlund
Communications Team: Ken Bour, Policy Consultant
Policy Process Steering Committee: Liz Gasster, Sr. Policy Counselor
New PDP Team: Margie Milam, Sr. Policy Counselor
Working Group Team: Ken Bour, Policy Consultant