Policy Implementation Update

Implementation Review Teams (IRTs) are convened to assist ICANN org in developing the implementation details for the Board-approved policy developed in GNSO PDP working groups. This is to ensure that the implementation conforms to the intent of the policy recommendations, as per IRT Principles and Guidelines. (Learn More)

Registration Data Policy for gTLDs
(EPDP PHASE 1 IMPLEMENTATION)

The IRT will conduct a working session at ICANN77 on Wednesday, 14 June 2023 from 10:45–12:15 EDT. Please check the ICANN77 meeting schedule for the confirmed time.

Three stages of the policy implementation were designed in advance of the Board resolution:

- **Stage 1**: Effective 20 May 2019, contracted parties must continue to implement measures consistent with the TempSpec for gTLD Registration Data, as adopted by the Board on 17 May 2018.

- **Stage 2**: This stage will begin after the ICANN org publishes a Registration Data Policy as a consensus policy and formally notifies the contracted parties. During this stage, contracted parties may implement the Interim Policy, the Registration Data Policy, or elements of both, as they prepare for the effective date of the Registration Data Policy. The timing of this milestone is to be determined.

- **Stage 3**: Contracted parties must comply with the Registration Data Policy as of its effective date, which the EPDP Team on the TempSpec for gTLD Registration Data recommended to be 29 February 2020.

The Stage 1 Interim Consensus Policy, *Interim Registration Data Policy for gTLDs*, was published on 17 May 2019.
In January 2021, the GNSO Council passed a motion to provide guidance on the interpretation of EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 7. In October 2021, the ICANN Board directed the implementation of the policy per the guidance. In June 2021, the Board adopted Recommendations 19–22 from the EPDP Phase 2 Final Report. The implementation of these recommendations, referred to as Priority 2 items, was added to the implementation scope. On 24 February 2022, the Board adopted the GNSO Council’s Supplemental Recommendation for EPDP Recommendation 12 concerning the deletion of data in the organization field as it addresses the Board’s overarching concern of loss of essential data.

Thirty-four (34) recommendations were analyzed to determine the implementation tasks: from EPDP Phase 1 (29), EPDP Phase 2 (4), and a Supplemental Recommendation (1). The draft Registration Data Policy language and review and analysis of all impacted policies and procedures have been published for Public Comment.

Currently, the implementation team is considering Public Comments and finalizing the policy language with the support of the IRT. It is working to publish the language together with the other 20 impacted policies and procedures to begin the implementation period.

This IRT is open to all. If you believe you have the requisite expertise, you may join as either a member (with full posting rights to the mailing list and the ability to participate in all meetings), or as an observer (with read-only status for the mailing list). To join, please follow the instructions in the Call for IRT announcement.

MORE INFORMATION

- EPDP Phase 1 background
- Policy Implementation Status webpage
- IRT workspace

RESPONSIBLE STAFF: Dennis Chang
Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs Phase 1

The IRT is expected to conduct a working session at ICANN77 on Thursday, 15 June 2023 from 09:00–10:15 EDT. During ICANN77, the team plans to work toward implementing the recommendations in the first implementation category identified below. Please check the ICANN77 meeting schedule for the confirmed time. The agenda will be published here.

On 24 November 2020, the PDP working group submitted its Phase 1 Final Report. It contains 35 recommendations. On 21 January 2021, the GNSO Council unanimously approved the Phase 1 Final Report and sent the Recommendations Report to the ICANN Board of Directors on 19 March 2021. A Public Comment proceeding on the Phase 1 Final Report was conducted from 7 April to 21 May 2021. The Staff Report was published on 4 June 2021.

On 16 January 2022, the ICANN Board adopted all 35 final Phase 1 PDP recommendations. The resolution includes the following Board directives to the ICANN org:

• For the 16 recommendations that call for updates to existing operational practices – proceed with implementation as soon as feasible and develop an implementation plan.

• For the nine recommendations affirming the status quo – include them for future expansions of the new gTLDs and inform the community about the plans to implement them.

• For the six recommendations that require substantial resourcing and multiple stakeholders’ involvement – develop an implementation plan that includes estimated timing, staffing, and other resources required, as well as how their implementation fits into operational planning and prioritization of the anticipated implementation efforts that will require the ICANN org’s resourcing and support.

• For the four recommendations that call for specific changes to the Applicant Guidebook and/or the Base Registry Agreement and coordination with the expected Subsequent Procedures IRT – incorporate the implementation of these recommendations into the work on updates to the Applicant Guidebook for subsequent new gTLD rounds.
Following the Board’s vote, ICANN’s Global Domains and Strategy (GDS) function began planning for implementation of the Phase 1 recommendations. On 19 October 2022, ICANN org issued a call for volunteers to assemble an IRT to assist in the implementation of the policy recommendations from Phase 1. On 13 December 2022, the implementation team held its kick-off meeting. The team will focus on implementing the recommendations in the first and third implementation categories identified above. Implementation of the remaining recommendations from the Phase 1 Final Report will be integrated into the implementation work related to the subsequent round of new gTLDs.

MORE INFORMATION

- Policy Implementation Status webpage
- IRT workspace

RESPONSIBLE STAFF: Antonietta Mangiacotti
The following IRTs do not plan to meet at ICANN77.

Registration Data Policy for gTLDs
(EPDP PHASE 2A IMPLEMENTATION)

The ICANN Board approved the EPDP Phase 2A policy recommendations on 10 March 2022. As set forth in Section 3 of the Final Report, the recommendations include: 1) a recommendation that a field or fields MUST be created to facilitate differentiation between legal and natural person registration data and/or if that registration data contains personal or non-personal data. ICANN org is expected to coordinate the implementation of this recommendation with the technical community. Once created, this field(s) is optional for use by contracted parties that choose to differentiate. Contracted parties that choose to differentiate are not required to use the field(s); 2) a recommendation that includes guidance developed by the EPDP team to assist contracted parties that choose to differentiate; 3) a recommendation that, should any possible future work within ICANN be undertaken in relation to the development of a GDPR Code of Conduct, the guidance developed concerning legal vs. natural differentiation should be considered; and 4) a recommendation that includes guidance for those contracted parties that choose to publish a pseudonymized registrant-based or registration-based email address in the publicly accessible Registration Data Directory Services (RDDS).

The ICANN Board has directed ICANN org to develop and execute an implementation plan for the above adopted recommendations that is consistent with the guidance provided by the GNSO Council and to continue communication with the community on such work. Implementation planning is now underway.
Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues

The IRT for the policy recommendations developed by the Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues (PPSAI) Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group began meeting in October 2016. It has reviewed the draft Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) and other associated program materials in preparation for the Public Comment phase.

On 4 March 2019, ICANN org wrote to the GNSO Council with the suggestion to wait before proceeding to Public Comment and implementation of the PPSAI recommendations until the completion of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data. The GNSO Council deferred the decision on this issue to ICANN org in a message on 30 April 2019. In its response on 5 September 2019, ICANN org confirmed that implementation work would remain paused pending the resolution of EPDP Phase 2.

With both phases of the EPDP complete, ICANN org provided its draft review of the impact of the EPDP recommendations on existing policies and procedures, including the PPSAI recommendations, per the EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 27. Following review by the EPDP Phase 1 IRT, the report was shared with the GNSO Council to help determine next steps. In its 7 July 2021 letter, the GNSO Council indicated an expectation that implementation would continue. ICANN org is now considering next steps for the PPSAI implementation within the org’s planning activities, factoring in existing and upcoming activities, as well as direction from the Board.

MORE INFORMATION

- PDP background
- Policy Implementation Status webpage
- IRT workspace

RESPONSIBLE STAFF: Dennis Chang
Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information

The ICANN Board adopted the recommendations of the PDP working group in September 2015. Since commencing implementation work in July 2016, the IRT and Global Domains and Strategy (GDS) have produced a preliminary policy document. Due to complexities emerging from the IRT’s discussions and work in other areas related to Registration Data Directory Services (RDDS) – in particular the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP)—the implementation’s projected announcement and effective dates are to be determined.

Given the implementation’s connection to the evolution of registration data policies and procedures, the PDP working group’s recommendations are being assessed per Recommendation 27 of the EPDP on the TempSpec for gTLD Registration Data Phase 1 Team’s Final Report. This is to ensure policy and implementation consistency across the many work streams in this area.

Both phases of the EPDP are now complete. The ICANN org has provided its draft review of the impact of the EPDP recommendations on existing policies and procedures, including the Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information recommendations, per the EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 27. Following review of the EPDP Phase 1 IRT, ICANN org provided a report to the GNSO Council. ICANN org is considering next steps regarding the GNSO Council’s consideration of the EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 27, Wave 1.5 Report, per its letter dated 7 July 2021. This includes incorporating next steps on the Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information recommendations into ICANN org’s planning activities, and factoring in timing and prioritization of work with other existing activities, including applicable dependencies.

MORE INFORMATION

- PDP background
- Policy Implementation Status webpage
- IRT workspace

RESPONSIBLE STAFF: Isabelle Colas
Protection of IGO and INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs

On 16 January 2018, the implementation of the Consensus Policy for the Protection of Certain Specific International Governmental Organization (IGO) and International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Identifiers for All gTLDs was published. As of 1 August 2018, implementation has been completed for the portion of the policy that provides protection by reserving full names for certain specific names of IGOs, the International Olympic Committee, and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. For INGOs, the implementation period will be 12 months from the release of the INGO Claims Systems Specification, which is currently being developed by the ICANN org.

In January 2019, the ICANN Board adopted the policy recommendation proposed by the Reconvened PDP Working Group on the Protections of the Specific Red Cross Red Crescent Names in All gTLDs. After the Public Comment phase, the consensus policy language was revised and published in February 2020. The implementation was completed by 1 August 2020, which resulted in increasing the number of reserved Domain Name System (DNS) Labels from 700 to more than 7,000.

The INGO Claims System implementation is currently on hold due to potential additional requirements that could be combined to create this new system. ICANN org is consulting with the IRT on the timing of the restart.

MORE INFORMATION

- PDP background
- Policy Implementation Status webpage
- IRT workspace

RESPONSIBLE STAFF: Dennis Chang
IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms and Specific Curative Rights Protections for IGOs

In April 2019, the GNSO Council voted to adopt Recommendations 1–4 of the Final Report of the International Governmental Organization and International Non-Governmental Organization (IGO-INGO) Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms Policy Development Process, but elected to refer Recommendation 5 to the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group. In January 2020, the GNSO Council adopted an addendum to the RPMs charter to integrate consideration of Recommendation 5 and initiate a separate IGO Work Track. In August 2021, the GNSO Council took the procedural step of initiating an EPDP to continue the work of the IGO Work Track. The EPDP Team delivered its Final Report to the Council on 4 April 2022 and the Council approved the five (5) consensus recommendations in June 2022. During its 30 April meeting, the ICANN Board adopted the four recommendations that the GNSO Council approved from the IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP, as well as the five recommendations that the GNSO Council approved from the EPDP on Specific Curative Rights Protections for IGOs.

The Board resolution direction ICANN org to proceed with the implementation of these recommendations as soon as feasible.

MORE INFORMATION

- IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP background
- Specific Curative Rights Protections for IGOs EPDP background

RESPONSIBLE STAFF: Steve Chan, Mary Wong