GNSO Policy Recommendations: Board Readiness Study

Proposed Methodology

Presented at GNSO Council meeting 18 July 2024

Foundational items

- Suggested definition:

  Board readiness: a set of practices or steps in the policy development process to increase the likelihood that GNSO policy recommendations will be readily adopted by the ICANN Board.

- Working Group objective:

  Perform a study that will inform the creation (or suggest the content) of a set of policy development practices that will improve the Board readiness of GNSO policy recommendations.

Methodology

- Develop questionnaires for interviews with Policy Development Process (PDP) Chairs, PDP working group members, ICANN staff, and Board members
  - To develop information for understanding information gaps in the Policy Development Process.
  - The working group will develop the questionnaire content based on the Considerations listed below, i.e., the information needed to identify a new set of practices in the Policy Development Process.

- Conduct one-on-one interviews with the same set of people, i.e., the working group or working group members will separately interview individuals.

- Synthesize the interview materials into a set of findings and, subsequently, use the findings to develop a set of recommendations intended to inform Council work on improving Board readiness.

Considerations

- Are PDP working group members surprised (or unsurprised) by Board's rejection of certain, specific policy recommendations? Why?

- Did the PDP working group consider Board reaction to potential recommendations?

- In the opinion of PDP working group members / ICANN staff / the Board, did the PDP working group believe they had sufficient information to develop a "Board-ready" set of recommendations?

- What are the expectations of the Board liaison role by: the PDP working group members, the Board liaisons, the Board? What are the effects of differences in those expectations?

- How did Board members receive information regarding PDP working group progress, during the Policy Development Process and after recommendations were received?

- What (negatively or positively) surprised Board members in the policy recommendations? At what stage of the PDP did those surprises occur? Through what channel (reading the PDP report, reading the summary report, the Board liaison report) did the Board member receive the specific information?

Scope, Schedule, Cast

- Policy Development Processes Studied
  - Registration Data (Phases I, II, III)
  - Subsequent Procedures
  - IDN
  - Transfer Policy
- Project Milestones and Timeline:
  - Complete this document   Jul 19
  - Data gathering & develop questionnaires   Aug 16
  - Conduct interviews   Sept 20
  - Synthesize and report results   ICANN Istanbul

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