

19 February 2025

ICANN Board Liaison to the GNSO Latin Script Diacritics Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG)

Greg DiBiase
Chair, GNSO

Tripti Sinha
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors

Dear Tripti,

I am writing to request that the ICANN Board considers appointing a Board Liaison to the recently established GNSO Latin Script Diacritics Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG). Michael Bauland, the PDP Chair to the WG, has expressed to the GNSO Council that a Board Liaison would be an important addition to the PDP WG to ensure that the progress of our work is regularly communicated with the Board/caucus. Considering the highly technical nature of the topic, a Board Liaison would also enable the WG to adequately take into account any Board concerns related to the development of its policy recommendations. The GNSO Council, on behalf of the Latin Script Diacritics PDP WG Chair, requests that an ICANN Board Liaison regularly observe the WG's policy making and in doing so, feel welcomed to identify issues that could potentially prevent eventual Board adoption.

We understand that the appointed liaison would perform his/her role in accordance with the [Guidelines for Board Members Serving as Liaisons to ICANN Community Groups](#) ("Guidelines").

We also appreciate that this request does not strictly conform with the Guidelines because a Board Liaison was not specifically identified in the PDP WG Charter; however, the recent experience with the "Reversal of SubPro Recommendation 20.6" implies that a Board Liaison role is essential for the development phase of policy recommendations and that the Liaison could help the WG in a timely manner if recommendations are unlikely to be approved by the Board. The Board Liaison can help identify any potential challenges that could be mitigated by the WG, while also conveying any formal or informal Board input that is intended to help inform the deliberations of the respective project, better ensuring that the policy recommendations get adopted at the Board action phase.

The GNSO Council believes the following criteria may be helpful to the Board in selecting a liaison:

- Knowledge of and preferably direct experience in IDN related work;
- Knowledge of ICANN policies and procedures, registry/registrar services, and domain name life cycle as they relate to IDNs;
- Familiarity with GNSO policy development processes;
- Staying current with WG deliberations by, for example, attending the WG's weekly meetings.

**Kindly note that the Board Liaison is not expected to participate in any PDP WG Consensus Calls and should clearly state whether they are speaking on behalf of the ICANN Board.*

For more detailed information on the PDP WG's mission, scope, and team composition, please refer to the PDP WG [Charter](#). For a list of the current PDP WG members, participants, and liaisons from other appointing organizations, please visit this [page](#).

The PDP is in the early stage of its work and would appreciate, if the Board is agreeable to appointing a liaison, that this be done **by Wednesday, 05 March, 2025** by informing the GNSO Secretariat at gns0-secs@icann.org.

Kind regards

Greg DiBiase
Chair, GNSO