



85 | COMMUNITY
FORUM



GNSO Council Meeting

11 March 2026

Celebrating GNSO Accomplishments between Meetings



LD PDP: Published its Initial Report in January 2026, ahead of schedule

DNS Abuse: Council voted to initiate two PDPs on DNS Abuse Mitigation (PDP 1 and PDP 2)

- PDP 1 began its meetings here at ICANN85.

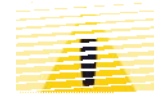
SCCI: Completed Final Report for the Implementation of PSR on Policy and Imp. and Council voted to accept the recs.

RDRS SC: Published updated Findings Report and submitted to Council. Council made rec to Board based on RDRS Findings Report.

Update on Proposed Proposal to Un-Adopt Approved GNSO Policy Recommendations

Public Comment Themes

Exceptional Nature of Process - must be rare



Primary cause \neq Implementation delays



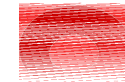
Need for Community Involvement



Reporting



Placement of Mechanism



SPS Outcomes - Board Readiness Recs

High-level SPS Outcomes



Improvements to Main Tools for our Work (PL and ADR)



Agreement on Next Steps for SSAD Recs



Council's Role through PDP Continuum



Prioritization



Board Readiness Recommendations

Board Readiness Recommendations

- **Recs 1 and 2(b)**
- Board and PDP WG to “walk in each other’s shoes”
- Board representatives should communicate on areas of potential concern during (rather than after) the PDP.

- While imperfect, the addition of ICANN Board liaisons to WGs endeavors to ensure concerns are raised early (before Final Report)
- Addition of informal meetings b/w Board and Council is another opportunity to community concerns openly

Board Readiness Recommendations

- **Recs 2(a) and 2(c)**
- WG should have access to legal expertise and financial expertise where needed
- Initial and Final Report recs should have concurrence of an ICANN or independent legal advisor that they do not violate the Bylaws.

- WGs already have ability to request additional resources from the GNSO Council as needed, e.g., legal advice, research requests, financial assessments, etc.
- WGs now include ICANN org liaison, who works with a cross-functional team, including legal and finance.

Board Readiness Recommendations

- **Recs 2(d)**
- Move Board consideration from the Final Report to the Initial Report on any matters possible (particularly with regard to Bylaw compliance and the Board's fiduciary duty).

- WG has ability to request a board public comment (SubPro)
- However, Council expressed concerns with the rec as written, particularly with the assumption that the Board should always provide a public comment, noting this should be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Where board input is needed, consider extending public comment period.

Board Readiness Recommendations

- **Recs 2(f)**
- WG and Board should make decisions based on identical sets of information.

- WGs and Board should share information to the extent possible (through a library of shared documents, for example), but Council noted there will be confidential documents and analyses that the Board is unable to share with the WG or Council.

Board Readiness Recommendations

- **Rec 4**
- Initial and Final Reports should anticipate (or react to) GAC Advice and (when available) provide detailed reporting of the discussion that addressed GAC issues and included GAC liaison participation.

- Council had major concerns with this recommendation and agreed NOT to further pursue.
- Acknowledged that WGs now invite GAC participation, and GAC-related concerns can be flagged. Adding this recommendation unnecessarily overcomplicates the process.

Board Readiness Recommendations

- **Rec 5(a)**
- In cases where there is existing policy, indicate whether we are adjusting existing policy to address a new set of conditions or taking a fresh look at (a de novo review of) the policy.

- Now covered within each GNSO charter with the addition of the “Consensus Policy Confirmation.”
- The CP Confirmation explicitly requires WGs to consider if the recommendations are meant to impact or supersede existing Consensus Policies.

Board Readiness Recommendations

- **Rec 6(b)**
- Chairs: Should be selected based upon a set of criteria developed for each PDP but the requisite skill set should always include:
 - (i) the ability to work with the Board to identify areas of difference develop a resolution path,
 - (ii) facilitate discussion
 - (iii) neutrality.

- Some councilors noted, the language in this rec could be seen as too prescriptive and could potentially be seen as restricting or dissuading new and emerging leaders.
- Unanimous agreement that investing in chair training is critical for the success of GNSO PDPs and this is action coming out of the SPS.

GNSO Council Meeting: ICANN85

Open Mic

