

New gTLDs Subsequent Rounds

10 March 2019

ICANN | GAC
Governmental Advisory Committee



ICANN64 GAC Plenary Meeting - Agenda Item 6.1

- **GAC Meeting with the GNSO** - Agenda Item 7.2
(Today 15:15-16:15)
- **New gTLDs Subsequent Procedures** - Agenda Item 8.2
(this session)
- **Preparation for meeting with the ICANN Board** - Agenda Item 9.1
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1. **Update on the New gTLD Subsequent PDP WG**
(by Jeff Neuman, PDP WG Co-Chair)
2. **Timing and process for initiating a new round of New gTLD applications** (GAC Helsinki Communiqué Advice)
3. **Public policy concerns** identified previously by the GAC
4. **Discussion of GAC arrangement for intersessional work and possible further engagement** in PDP deliberations

Update on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group



Jeff Neuman, Co-Chair

10 March 2019

What is the PDP about?

- ⦿ GNSO recommendations from 2007 resulted in the Applicant Guidebook and the 2012 round of the New gTLD Program.
- ⦿ The New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP (“SubPro”) is focused on considering the 2012 round policy and **determining what changes might need to be made to the original GNSO recommendations from 2007 and/or implementation.**
- ⦿ The PDP was **chartered** and began its work in early **2016**
 - Charter available here: <https://gns0.icann.org/en/issues/new-gtlds/subsequent-procedures-charter-21jan16-en.pdf>
- ⦿ The PDP has over 40 separate topics identified in its charter and initially broke into Work Tracks (1-5) to tackle work. Sample of topics:
 - Community Applications
 - Applicant Support
 - Geographic Names at the Top Level

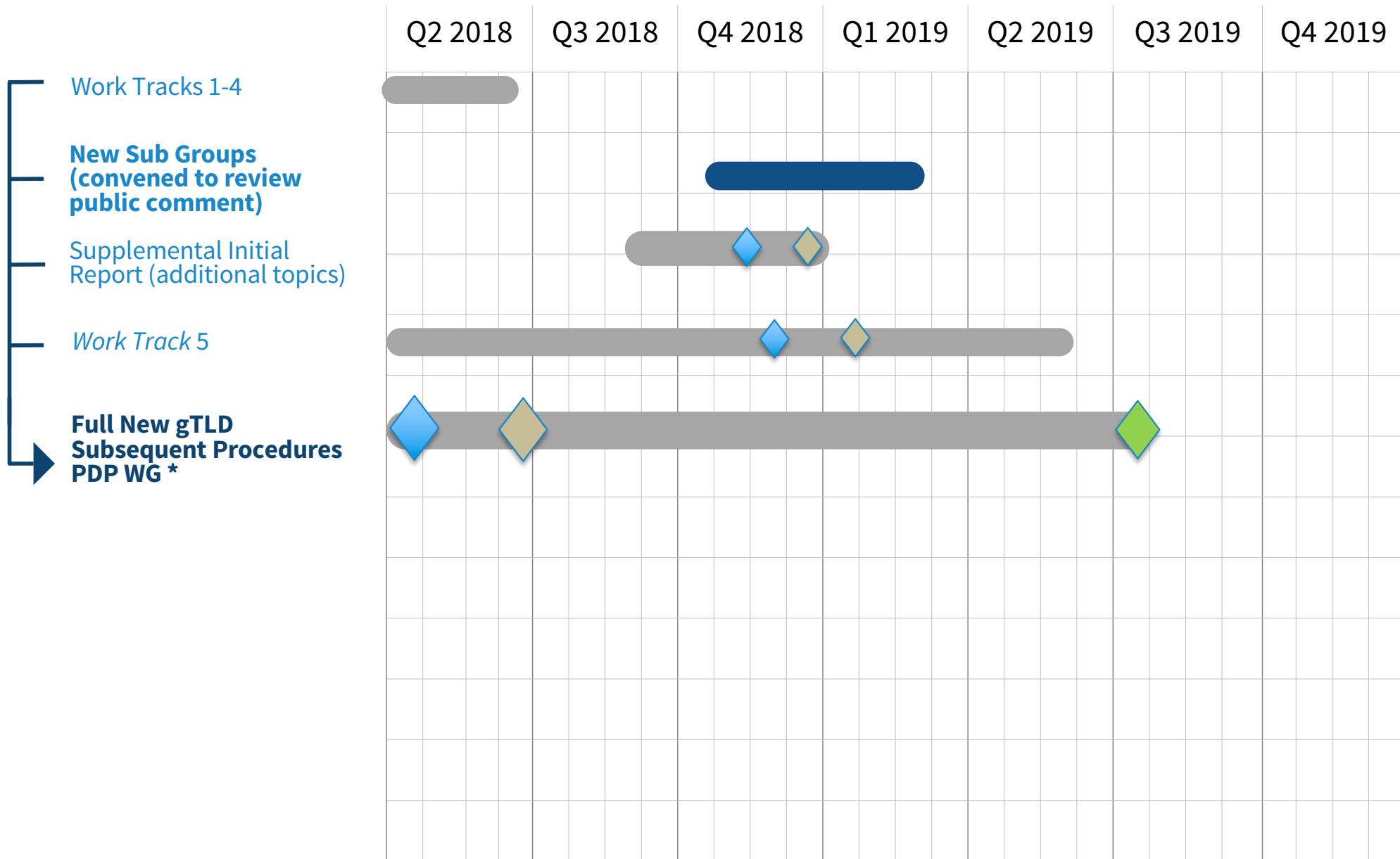
How is the PDP Structured?

- ⦿ The PDP has two overall co-chairs: **Jeff Neuman** (also Sub Group A) and **Cheryl Langdon-Orr** (also Sub Group C)
- ⦿ The PDP has over 40 separate topics identified in its charter. The Working group broke into four work tracks to complete initial deliberations. At ICANN63, the WG began reviewing **public comments** on its Initial Report in the form of three new Sub Groups. Sub Group leads: **Robin Gross** (Sub Group A), **Christa Taylor** (Sub Group B), **Rubens Kuhl** (Sub Group B), **Michael Flemming** (Sub Group C).
- ⦿ Work Track 5: **Geographic Names at the Top-Level** (**Annebeth Lange**, **Javier Rúa-Jovet**, **Martin Sutton**, and **Olga Cavalli**)
- ⦿ All Work Tracks and Sub Groups will submit their work to the whole Working Group for review and approval

Current Status

- ⦿ An Initial Report was published for public comment on 3 July 2018, with the period closing on 26 September.
- ⦿ Comments received have been organized and collated, with Sub Groups (A, B, and C) just completed.
- ⦿ The WG also worked on a set of 5 topics that needed additional discussion, which were also published in late October for public comment in the form of a Supplemental Initial Report.
- ⦿ The full WG is now reviewing public comments received to this Supplemental Initial Report.
- ⦿ Work Track 5 (geo names at the top-level) published its own Supplemental Initial Report in December and has begun review of public comment in late February.

SubPro Timeline



KEY



Publish Initial Report

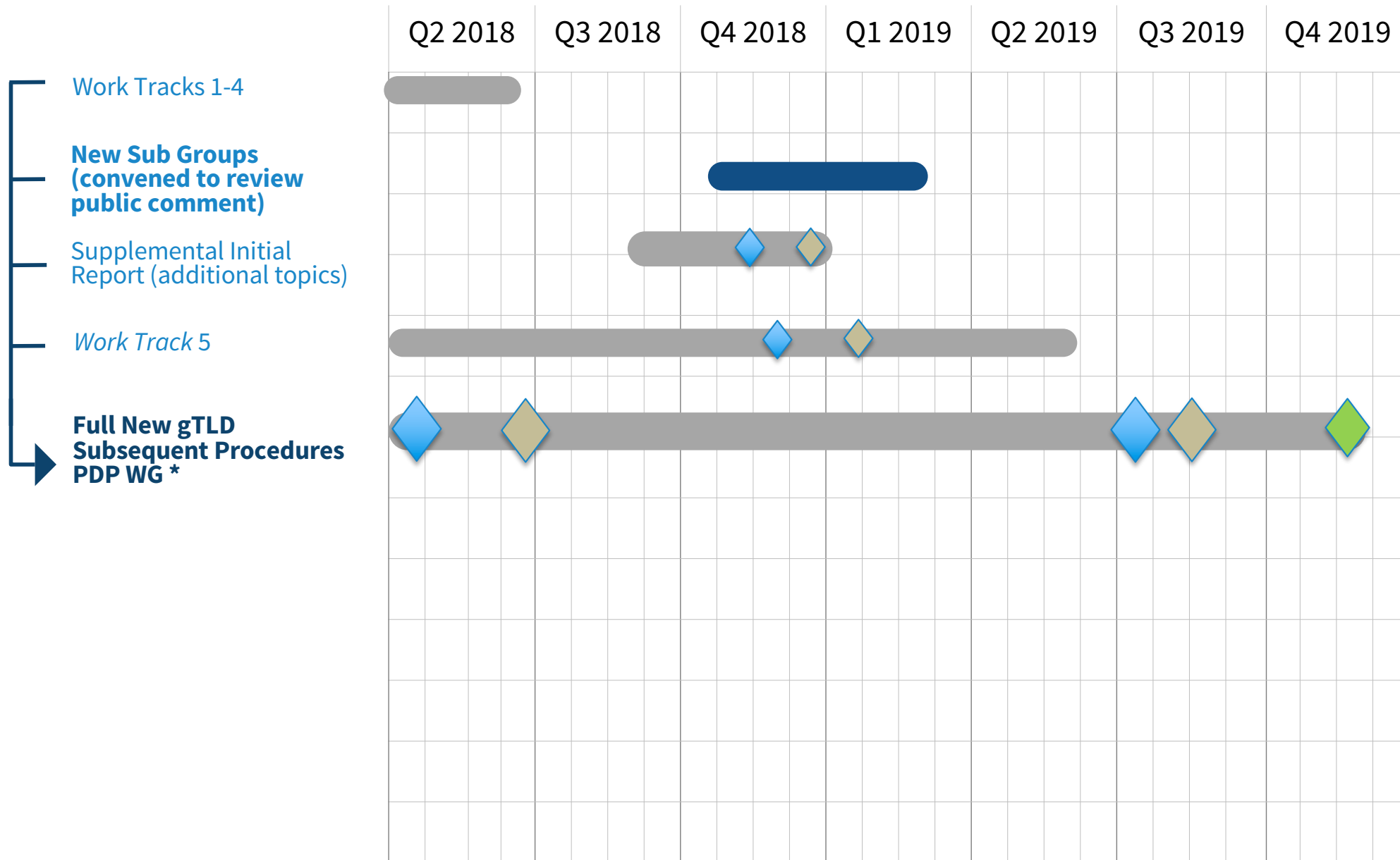


Close of Public Comments



Final Report Delivered to Council

SubPro Timeline – Add'l Public Comment



KEY



Publish Initial Report



Close of Public Comments



Final Report Delivered to Council

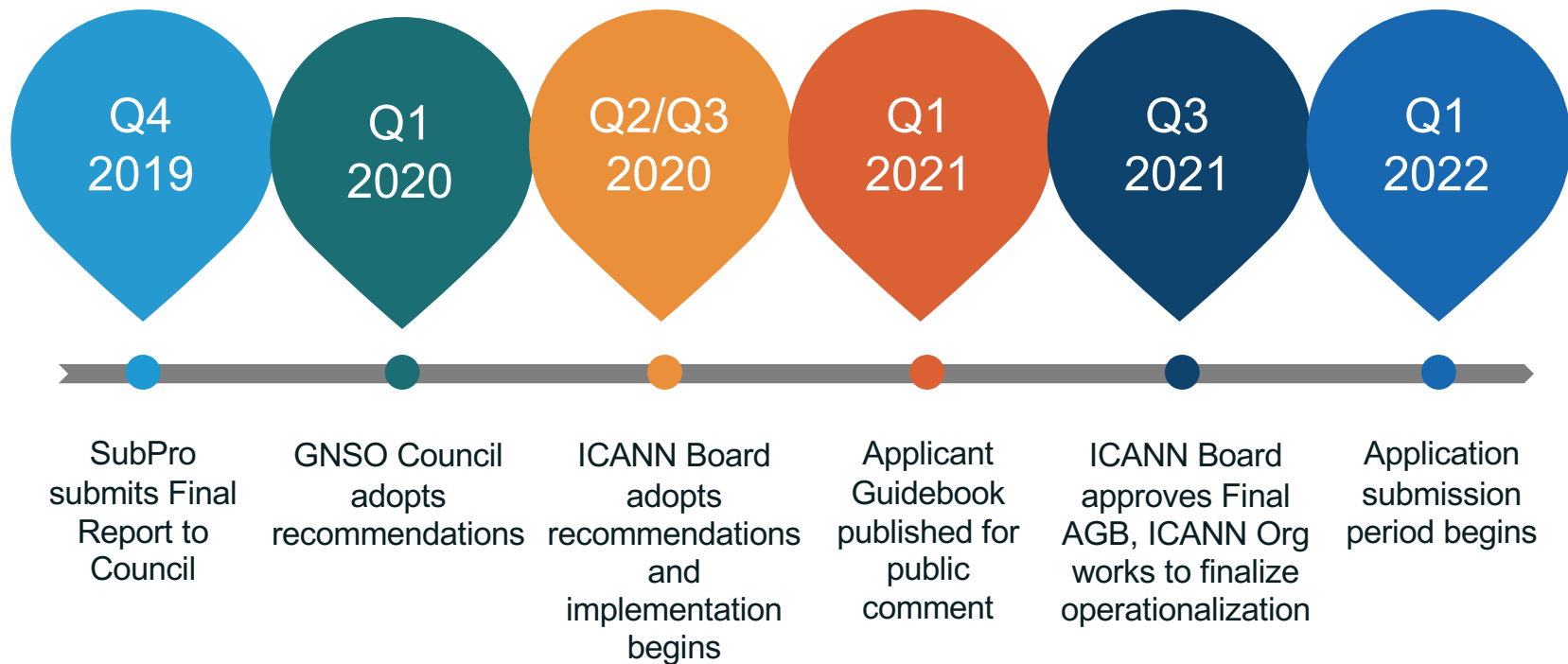
What is Coming Next for the PDP?

- ⦿ Consider public comment on Initial Report, Supplemental Initial Report, and WT5 Supplemental Initial Report and work towards completion and delivery of **Final Report** to GNSO Council for its consideration.
- ⦿ Consider recommendations of the **Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team** targeting this PDP.
- ⦿ Ensure Advisory Committee Advice is adequately considered and taken into account.

What Happens After the PDP delivers its Final Report?

- This PDP is seeking to deliver its Final Report to the GNSO Council in the third quarter of 2019.
- From that point, these are some of the expected next steps (as with the conclusion of any PDP):
 - **GNSO Council** consideration and **adoption** of the **PDP recommendations** in the Final Report
 - Council report to Board / Public Comment
 - **ICANN Board** consideration and **adoption** of the **PDP recommendations** as adopted by GNSO Council
 - ICANN org (as directed by the Board) to begin implementation of the PDP recommendations (which will likely include a **revised Applicant Guidebook**)

SubPro – Possible Timeline to Launch



Plausible Path to Subsequent Procedures

While it is difficult to predict when the New gTLD Program will commence with any level of certainty, the above timeline is provided as a plausible path. It also serves as a reminder of some of the likely and necessary steps to reach that point.

PDP Resources

- Active Project Page: <https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/new-gtld-subsequent-procedures>
- PDP Wiki: <https://community.icann.org/x/RgV1Aw>
- PDP Mailing List Archive: <http://mm.icann.org/pipermail/gnso-newgtld-wg/>
- Newsletters: <https://gnso.icann.org/en/news/working-group-newsletters>

Questions & Answers

GAC Helsinki Communiqué Advice (30 June 2016)

1. Future gTLDs Policies and Procedures

a. The GAC advises the ICANN Board that:

I. The starting point for development of policy on further releases of new gTLDs should first take into consideration the results of all relevant reviews of the new gTLD round and determine which aspects and elements need adjustment. In addition, the following should be addressed:

- a. Requirements with regard to interoperability, security, stability and resiliency should be met.
- b. An objective and independent analysis of costs and benefits should be conducted beforehand, drawing on experience with and outcomes from the recent round; and
- c. There should be an agreed policy and administrative framework that is supported by all stakeholders.

II. All measures available to the Board should be used to ensure that a comprehensive and measured approach to further releases of new gTLDs is taken in a logical, sequential and coordinated way rather than through parallel and overlapping efforts and/or timeframes that may not be agreed by all relevant interests

Rationale

1. There is currently no public policy reason why further releases of new gTLDs should not proceed as a general principle. There are, however, valid public policy reasons for applying a range of requirements at the application and post-delegation stages. The GAC believes such requirements derive at least in part from ICANN's obligations with regard to the global public interest, as contained in existing and proposed Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.
2. Data is not currently available to allow a proper assessment, both quantitative and qualitative, of the round that is now concluding. Some important data, for example with regard to consumer safety and security, may not yet be being collected. To ensure a logical and efficient process, such data should be gathered before policy development processes move too far ahead.

Please refer to Annex of Briefing for Agenda Item 8.2

available on the GAC Website at:

<https://gac.icann.org/sessions/icann64-block-8-session-8-2-new-gtld-subsequent-procedures-discussion> (login required)

- In Barcelona, the GAC agreed to consider establishing a Working Group to coordinate GAC engagement in the work of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP WG (see [Minutes](#) the GAC plenary session during the ICANN63 Meeting in Barcelona)
- Based on the experience of the GAC Small Group on GDPR and its engagement in the EPDP, the GAC Leadership and GAC Topic leads suggest the formation of an **informal focal group, based on an email list**
- If agreed by the GAC, the GAC Support Team will circulate a call for volunteers

- **Regarding timing of and process for initiating a new round of New gTLD applications**, consider to what extent the criteria established in the Helsinki GAC Advice are anticipated to being met in view of the initiation of new rounds of applications

GAC Leadership requested whether the ICANN Board could *“share its current consideration or perspective on the extent to which the various criteria established in the Helsinki GAC Advice (accepted by the Board) will be addressed prior to initiation of any new rounds of applications?”*.

- **Regarding public policy concerns** highlighted in previous GAC contributions (see Annex of Briefing), engage further in ongoing deliberations of the Sub Pro PDP WG
- Confirm whether a **GAC informal focal group, based on an email list**, is acceptable and can lead to effective intersessional work of the GAC on this matter (per Action Item from ICANN63)

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