ICANN | GNSO
Generic Names Supporting Organization

Policy Development Process (PDP) Update
New gTLD Subsequent Procedures
February 2018

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

The Working Group has initiated Work Track 5 in the PDP devoted to geographic names at the top-level, using a shared leadership model with representation from the GAC and other SOs and ACs that have a stake in the issue. Whilst the issue of geographic names is only one of many topics within the PDP WG's charter, the PDP understands this topic is of broad community interest and has been holding bi-weekly meetings; additional participation is welcomed. For the overall PDP WG, it is seeking to publish its Initial Report for public comment shortly after ICANN61, where feedback from the GAC and other community organizations is essential to the PDP.

ISSUE

Review and recommend possible changes or adjustments to the GNSO principles, recommendations, and implementation guidance from the 2007 Final Report on the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains, or possibly develop new policy recommendations.

SUMMARY

In June of 2014, the GNSO Council created the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Discussion Group, which was focused on reflecting upon the experiences gained from the 2012 New gTLD round and identifying a recommended set of subjects that should be further analyzed in an Issue Report. It is important to note that there is existing policy from the 2007 Final Report on the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains, which states that the original policy recommendations as adopted by the GNSO Council and ICANN Board have "been designed to produce a systemized and ongoing mechanism for applicants to propose new top-level domains," meaning that those policy recommendations remain in place for subsequent rounds of the New gTLD Program unless the GNSO Council decides to modify them via a policy development process. At the ICANN53 meeting, The GNSO Council approved a motion to request that a Preliminary Issue Report be drafted by ICANN staff, basing the report on the set of deliverables developed by the Discussion Group, to further analyze issues identified and help determine if changes or adjustments are needed for subsequent new gTLD procedures.

ICANN staff completed the Preliminary Issue Report on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures, which was published for public comment on 31 August 2015, with the comment period closing on 30 October 2015. ICANN staff reviewed public comments received and adjusted the Issue Report accordingly. The Final Issue Report, along with the summary and analysis of public comments received, were submitted to the GNSO Council for its consideration on 4 December 2015 and a PDP on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures was initiated on 17 December 2015. The GNSO Council adopted the PDP WG charter during its 21 January 2016 meeting, with a call for volunteers issued on 27 January 2016. The PDP WG held its first meeting on 22 February 2016 and holds meetings on a regular basis. The PDP WG also has established four Work Track Sub Teams to address specific work items. These Sub Teams have been meeting consistently since their inception and are seeking to establish preliminary recommendations / outcomes, as well as to identify specific areas where community input is sought.

The PDP WG is aware of efforts related to New gTLDs underway within the community, particularly the Competition, Consumer Trust & Consumer Choice Review Team; the PDP WG understands that coordination with other community efforts is needed to promote comprehensive solutions and outcomes.

GAC ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY STATUS

Though the PDP WG has begun its deliberations and there are members from the GAC participating, additional individuals from the GAC are always encouraged to participate in the PDP WG. In addition, the GAC will be informed of opportunities for engagement in the process, which could include providing public comments to WG deliverables, input via communiqués, and periodic requests for input from the PDP WG to the GAC and other community groups. The PDP WG made a formal request for input from the GAC prior to ICANN56 in Helsinki and an additional request for input in regards to the remaining subjects identified in the PDP WG's Charter following ICANN58. The PDP WG also held joint sessions with the GAC at ICANN59 and ICANN60, where it solicited input from GAC members on two topics: Community Applications and Support for Applicants from Developing Countries. The PDP WG is now seeking to establish preliminary recommendations / outcomes, as well as to identify specific areas where community input is sought, which will be integrated into its Initial Report. The PDP WG is aiming to publish its Initial Report shortly after ICANN61.

Noting that the topic of geographic names is included in the charter of the PDP and that there is broad community interest in this topic, the PDP launched Work Track 5, devoted to this issue using a shared

leadership model with representation from the GAC and other SOs and ACs that have a stake in the issue. WT5 has agreed to its [Terms of Reference](#) and has begun substantive deliberations.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Archived project page for the completed Discussion Group effort http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/inactive/2015/non-pdp-new-gtld
- GNSO Council Resolution requesting Preliminary Issue Report http://gnso.icann.org/en/council/resolutions#201507
- Preliminary Issue Report on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures https://www.icann.org/public-comments/new-gtld-subsequent-prelim-2015-08-31-en
- Final Issue Report on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures - http://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/new-gtlds/subsequent-procedures-final-issue-04dec15-en.pdf
- GNSO Council Resolution initiating PDP - http://gnso.icann.org/en/council/resolutions#201512
- GNSO Council Resolution adopting PDP - http://gnso.icann.org/en/council/resolutions#20160121-2
- PDP WG Charter - http://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/new-gtlds/subsequent-procedures-charter-21jan16-en.pdf
- Active Project Page - http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/new-gtld-subsequent-procedures
- PDP WG Community Wiki - https://community.icann.org/x/RgV1Aw