



Joint Session: GAC, GNSO, and ALAC Facilitated Dialogue on Closed Generics

12,13 June 2023



Agenda

1. **Introduction to GAC/GNSO/ALAC Facilitated Dialogue** - Mary Wong
2. **Participant Introduction** - Melissa Peters Allgood
3. **Overview of the Process** - Melissa Peters Allgood
4. **Review of Draft Framework on Closed Generic gTLDs** - Melissa Peters Allgood, Dialogue Participants
5. **SO/AC Community Group Input/Discussion**
6. **Next Steps** - Melissa Peters Allgood

Introduction to the Facilitated Dialogue

- The 2012 Applicant Guidebook did not contain specific guidance regarding applications for closed generic gTLDs, thus implicitly allowing them.
 - The GAC identified 61 strings covering 186 applications proposing exclusive registry access
- The GAC's 2013 Beijing Advice:
 - *"For strings representing generic terms, exclusive registry access should serve a public interest goal"*
- The New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group discussed several options, but was ultimately unable to reach consensus on policy recommendations for closed generic gTLDs.
- In March 2022, the Board invited the GAC and GNSO Council to participate in a Board-facilitated dialogue to explore a mutually agreeable way forward on closed generic gTLDs.
- The GAC and GNSO accepted the Board's invitation and jointly invited the ALAC to participate.

The Facilitated Dialogue Process

Membership:

GAC Participants

- Aderonke Adeniyi (Sola-Ogunsola), Nigeria
- Jorge Cancio, Switzerland
- Nigel Hickson, United Kingdom
- Manal Ismail, Egypt
- Jason Merritt, Canada
- Ian Sheldon, Australia

ALAC Participants

- Greg Shatan
- Alan Greenberg (Alternate)

GNSO Participants

- Philippe Fouquart, CSG
- Arnaud Franquinet, RrSG
- Sophie Hey, RySG
- Kathy Kleiman, NCSG
- John McElwaine, GNSO Council
- Jeff Neuman, SubPro PDP

Board Liaisons

- Patricio Poblete
- Alan Barrett (Alternate)

The Facilitated Dialogue Process

Approach to the topic

- Brainstorming: group working from a high-level inward to framework detail, identifying common ground at each stage and building upon it

Timeline

- November - December 2023
 - Participant Commitments
 - Chatham House rule
 - Emphasis on asynchronous work between weekly 90-minute meetings
- December 2022 - January 2023
 - Identified needs - desires, concerns, questions & fears around closed generic gTLDs
 - Shared where & how closed generic gTLDs may & may not be appropriate
 - Identified unique opportunities, challenges & characteristics of closed generic gTLDs for end users, registrants and/or businesses
 - Brainstormed and discussed use cases
 - Began discussions of how to apply use cases to the Public Interest, keeping with GAC Beijing advice
 - Established high-level framework assumptions
 - Identified the unique characteristics of closed generic gTLDs that differentiate them from existing gTLD models

The Facilitated Dialogue Process

Timeline (cont.)

- January 26-27, 2023 - Met in Washington, D.C.
 - 3 distinct areas of work emerged - Application, Evaluation, Contracting/Post-Delegation
 - Significant time was spent working on the Public Interest
 - Utilized small breakout groups for brainstorming
- February - March 2023
 - Further discussion of definitions and threats and risks
- ICANN76 - Cancun, Mexico
 - Continued threat and risk analysis and discussion of the Public Interest
- April-May 2023
 - Began meeting twice per week for 90 minutes
 - Reacted to a strawman document that encapsulated all framework inputs to date
 - Shared significant (aka “red line”) concerns about specific framework elements
 - Engaged in focused discussions on specific red line issues

Draft Framework for Community Q&A and Discussion



Next Steps

- The Facilitated Dialogue group is currently seeking community feedback on the [Draft Framework for Closed Generic gTLDs](#).
- This feedback will be considered by the group as it continues to work toward a Final Framework, to underpin expected policy work on closed generic gTLDs.
- SO/AC groups are encouraged to submit feedback via:
 - Their support staff within ICANN org or
 - Directly to closed-generics-feedback@icann.org

Please review the Draft Framework and submit any feedback by **15 July 2023**.

Engage with ICANN – Thank You



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