

GNSO/GAC Facilitated Dialogue on Closed Generics

07 August 2023 Meeting Notes

Following the [joint message](#) sent today from the GNSO, GAC, and ALAC Chairs to the group, the Closed Generic (CG) Dialogue Participants brainstormed what further work will be necessary in order to wrap up the Facilitated Dialogue. This work may be part of, or in addition to, the outcomes report requested by the Chairs.

Participants discussed the following:

- Whether to invite the feedback authors to speak to this group regarding fundamental issues with the CG Draft Framework, keeping with the agreement from their last meeting (31 July).
- Whether the current feedback submissions are sufficient without the need for further input, and if the group can consider expeditiously going through the community's feedback and flagging any important issues for the outcomes report.
- Whether a community webinar would be more appropriate for obtaining clarity on the community's feedback, given that the feedback authors may not be able to represent the variety of perspectives from within their community.
- Whether the Community Feedback Review Tool should be completed and attached, or simply referenced, in their outcomes report.
- Whether to continue to identify and document fundamental issues, with the aid of additional input from the feedback authors.
- Whether to annotate or revise the Draft Framework document to note where there are fundamental issues and where the group found broad consensus and where it did not.
- Whether to include all the community input received in their totality in the outcomes report and/or the feedback review tool that staff had prepared.
- Whether staff should be tasked to summarize the feedback submissions, noting a potential concern that summarizing entails a degree of interpretation, and as such it may be better that the comments speak for themselves.
- Whether the outcomes report should be an introduction to the other documents, making it clear for the historical record that the Draft Framework is not a final agreed output or acceptable to the participating groups as written, rather than needing to annotate or rewrite the Draft Framework
- Whether to include lessons learned about the methods and techniques that were used during the dialogue.
- Whether to share the Chairs' letter with those groups that had contributed feedback to the Draft Framework, prior to inviting them (or their representatives) to join the next call of the dialogue.

- Participants expressed concerns that archiving the Draft Framework in its current form could imply that it is accepted or broadly endorsed by the community, when that is not the case.
- Participants also discussed whether the Board would likely agree to maintain the status quo of having no closed generic gTLDs in the next round, as suggested in the Chairs' letter. The Board liaisons to the dialogue noted (in their personal capacity as they were not authorized to speak for the full Board on this point at this time) that it is reasonable to believe that the Board will not take a decision contrary to the community's expressed views and different from the position taken in the last round.

Participants generally came to agreement on the following:

- Participants generally agreed to share the Chairs' letter with the groups that submitted feedback, and to invite them to join the next dialogue call if they wish to provide further explanation of their feedback for completeness of the record.
- Participants generally agreed that the outcomes report should include an appendix with the full feedback submissions, as well as a link to the Community Feedback Review Tool (but not the entire tool itself).
- Participants generally agreed that the outcomes report should also include mention of other documents that record the group's discussions, to clarify how the group developed the Draft Framework and how and why the dialogue is not proceeding further, to ensure that the Draft Framework is not interpreted as a document that has been broadly endorsed by the community. The outcomes report should also include lessons learned about the Dialogue and its work methods.
- Participants on the call agreed to cancel their 14 August meeting while the outcomes report is drafted and to invite the feedback authors (or each commenting group's representative) to consider joining the next call on 21 August 2023.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Staff to begin drafting the outcomes report based on the group's discussion, which will be shared with the group for its reactions.
- Staff to share the GNSO/GAC/ALAC Chairs' letter with the groups that submitted feedback, along with an invitation to speak to the group at their 21 August meeting.