The GNSO Policy Development Process

Executive Summary

Introduction

- The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) uses the GNSO policy development process (GNSO PDP; see Annex A of the ICANN Bylaws) when developing recommendations for "consensus policies" pertaining to generic top-level domains (gTLDs) for consideration by the ICANN Board.
- The GNSO PDP Manual (see Annex 2 of the GNSO Operating Procedures) contains guidance that supplements the GNSO PDP.
- *It is recommended that GNSO Council members and anyone interested in participating in the GNSO PDP read the GNSO Policy Development Process and Policy Development Process Manual in their entirety.*
- Following, in this Executive Summary, are the sequential steps that are among the most important in the completion of the GNSO PDP.

Request for an Issue Report

- This request may come from the ICANN Board, a member of the GNSO Council or an ICANN Advisory Committee (AC); it should contain a description of the issue raised for consideration in a GNSO PDP and the problems the issue causes.

Preparation of the Issue Report

- Staff prepares a Preliminary Issue Report that includes a description of the issue, the ICANN General Counsel's opinion regarding scope, and Staff's opinion on whether a PDP should be commenced on the topic.
- The Preliminary Issue Report is posted for an ICANN public comment period.
- Staff considers the comments received to produce a Final Issue Report.
- A Final Issue Report is delivered to the Council for its consideration.

Formal initiation of the PDP by the GNSO Council

- For issue report requests made by the ICANN Board, the GNSO Council initiates the PDP after the delivery of the Final Issue Report. No formal Council vote is needed.

- For all other issue report requests, initiation of the PDP requires a Council vote.

Development and approval of the PDP Charter

- After initiating a PDP, the Council forms a group to draft the PDP Charter for the PDP Working Group (WG).
- The Council approves the proposed PDP Charter.

Formation and Activities of the PDP WG

- Upon approval of the PDP Charter, the Council forms the PDP WG.

- The PDP WG deliberates and develops its recommendations based on input from the GNSO's Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies; and the broader ICANN community.

Preparation of the PDP WG's Initial Report
- The PDP WG prepares an Initial Report containing, among other elements, its PDP Recommendations.
- This Initial Report is posted for public comment.

Preparation of the PDP WG's Final Report
- The PDP WG's Final Report describes the WG's final PDP Recommendations, which take into account the public comments received.
- A public comment period is not required for completion of the Final Report but is recommended if the Final Report substantially differs from the Initial Report.

Consideration and approval by the Council of the PDP Recommendations
- The Council votes to approve the WG's PDP Recommendations in accordance with the voting threshold guidelines described in the ICANN Bylaws. The GNSO Council may refer any PDP Recommendation about which it has concerns or suggestions back to the PDP WG for further work.

Preparation of a Recommendations Report
- If the GNSO Council approves the PDP Recommendations, a Recommendations Report (Board Report) is prepared and reviewed by the GNSO Council for the ICANN Board.

Consideration and adoption by the Board of the PDP Recommendations
- Board votes on whether to adopt the PDP Recommendations approved by the Council.
- If the Board does not adopt the PDP Recommendations, the GNSO Council may commence a specific process to affirm or modify the recommendations and submit a Supplemental Recommendation report to the Board.

Introduction

Input from the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) community is a crucial ingredient in ICANN's bottom-up approach to developing substantive Internet policies (also known as "Consensus Policies"). Specifically, the GNSO is responsible for developing and recommending to the ICANN Board policies related to generic top-level domains (gTLDs) (see Article X, Section 1, of the ICANN Bylaws).

To develop these policy recommendations regarding gTLDs, the GNSO uses a specific process, the GNSO Policy Development Process (GNSO PDP). The GNSO PDP is actually part of the ICANN Bylaws (see Annex A of the Bylaws).

Because the GNSO PDP was last updated in December 2011 (via amendments to Annex A of the ICANN Bylaws), its current version is still sometimes referred to as the "revised GNSO PDP" or "new GNSO PDP."

(When conducting its many activities other than directly developing those gTLD-related policies known as "consensus policies", the GNSO does not have to follow the GNSO PDP. Of course, it does remain bound by numerous other provisions of the ICANN Bylaws.)

It is the responsibility of the GNSO Council to manage the GNSO PDP, which it does using the GNSO Operating Procedures. These procedures include a Policy Development Process Manual (PDP Manual), which contains guidance, definitions and processes supplementing the GNSO PDP itself (see Annex 2 of the GNSO Operating Procedures).

This document
This document is an integrated summary of the GNSO Policy Development Process and the Policy Development Process Manual.

This document is primarily intended for GNSO Council members and anyone interested in participating in the GNSO PDP. *It is highly recommended that those readers read the GNSO Policy Development Process and Policy Development Process Manual in their entirety.*

Definitions
Following are the definitions of certain key terms frequently used in this document:
- Consensus Policy: A substantive gTLD policy recommendation that is developed by the GNSO and, if adopted by the ICANN Board, is binding on ICANN-contracted parties (gTLD registries and registrars).
- GNSO policy development process (GNSO PDP): The process used by the GNSO to develop gTLD policy recommendations for proposal to the ICANN Board.
- GNSO Supermajority: A GNSO voting threshold met by either (a) two-thirds of the Council members of each House or (b) three-fourths of the Council members of one House and a majority of the Council members of the other House (see Article X, Section 3, paragraph 9(l), of the ICANN Bylaws).
- Staff Manager(s): The ICANN Policy Staff person or persons who support a GNSO PDP.

Steps of the GNSO Policy Development Process

The following sequential steps are among the most important in the completion of the GNSO PDP, resulting in an ICANN Consensus Policy:
- Scoping of the issue;
- Request for an Issue Report;
- Preparation of the Issue Report;
- Formal initiation of the PDP by the GNSO Council (no GNSO Council vote is needed if the Board submitted the Request for an Issue Report);
- Development and approval of the PDP Charter;
- Formation of a PDP WG to develop PDP Recommendations;
- Preparation of an Initial Report, containing the initial PDP Recommendations, by the PDP WG;

- Preparation of a Final Report, containing the final PDP Recommendations, by the PDP WG;
- Consideration and approval by the GNSO Council of the PDP Recommendations;
- Preparation of a Recommendations Report (Board Report), containing the PDP Recommendations and approved by the Council; and
- Consideration and adoption of the PDP Recommendations by the Board.

Scoping of the Issue

It is strongly recommended that, before an Issue Report is requested, the policy issue in question be properly defined and scoped.

To this end, the GNSO and ICANN Policy Staff are encouraged to provide, prior to a request, advice on further research, discussion or outreach recommended as part of the development of the Issue Report. The GNSO is also encouraged to hold workshops on relevant substantive topics that may help gather information and support for the request and/or educate the community regarding the scope, severity and/or complexity of the issue in question. Such workshops or information-gathering efforts should be announced as widely as possible.

Request for an Issue Report

The request for an Issue Report may come from the ICANN Board, a member of the GNSO Council or an ICANN Advisory Committee (AC).

Request by the Board
The ICANN Board may request an Issue Report simply by instructing the GNSO Council to begin a PDP. Along with the request, the Board should consider providing information regarding the scope, timing and priority of the request. No vote is needed by the Council following such a Board request.

Request by a member of the GNSO Council
A request for an Issue Report from a GNSO Council member requires a Council vote in favor of the request from either (a) more than one-fourth of the Council members in each House or (b) a majority of the Council members in one House (see Article X, Section 3, paragraph 9(a), of the ICANN Bylaws). Preceding such a vote, an appropriate motion must be introduced and duly seconded within the Council.

Request by an Advisory Committee
A request for an Issue Report from an ICANN AC – such as the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) or Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) – requires a motion properly supported according to the AC's own procedures. The request must then be transmitted to the GNSO Council and the Staff Manager. No vote is needed by the Council following such a request. Upon receipt of the request, Staff commences the preparation of the Preliminary Issue Report.

Contents and format of an Issue Report request

The request should include, at a minimum, a description of the issue, identification of the party submitting or supporting the request (for example, ICANN Board, GNSO Stakeholder Group, GNSO Constituency, or ICANN AC) and an explanation of how the party is affected by this issue. It is recommended that the party submitting the request consider also including the following information:

- The rationale for policy development;
- Suggestions of specific items to be addressed in the Issue Report (if any);
- The problems raised by the issue (in quantitative terms, to the extent feasible);
- The economic impact the issue has on competition, consumer trust, privacy and other rights;
- Supporting evidence (if any);
- How the issue relates to ICANN's Bylaws, Affirmation of Commitments and/or Articles of Incorporation;
- The submission date of the request; and
- The expected completion date of a resulting PDP.

A template showing the recommended format of a request for an Issue Report appears in Section 4 of the PDP Manual.

Preparation of the Issue Report

Preliminary Issue Report

Within 45 calendar days after the receipt of a request for an Issue Report, the Staff Manager should prepare a Preliminary Issue Report. If more time is needed, the Manager may request an extension of time.

The Preliminary Issue Report – and, ultimately, the Final Issue Report – should address the following:

- The issue raised for consideration;
- The identity of the ICANN party submitting the request for an Issue Report;
- How that party is affected by the issue, if known;
- The support that exists to initiate a PDP regarding the issue, if known;
- The opinion of ICANN's General Counsel regarding whether the issue is properly within the scope of ICANN's mission and policy process and, more specifically, within the role of the GNSO as defined by the ICANN Bylaws (see Article X of the ICANN Bylaws); and
- The opinion of ICANN Staff regarding whether the GNSO Council should initiate a PDP on the issue.

In determining whether the issue is properly within the scope of ICANN's policy process, the General Counsel should consider whether the issue:

- Is within the scope of ICANN's mission statement and, specifically, within the role of the GNSO;

- Is broadly applicable;
- Would likely have lasting value or applicability, even if the need for occasional updates would exist;
- Would likely enable ICANN to carry out its commitments under the Affirmation of Commitments;
- Would establish a guide or framework for future decision making; and
- Would implicate or affect an existing ICANN policy.

Public comment period
Upon its completion, the Preliminary Issue Report is posted on ICANN's Web site for a public comment period of no less than 30 days. The report's executive summary may be translated into the six U.N. languages (as permissible under the ICANN Language Services Policy and budget). The translation process should not delay the posting of the English version or the closing of the public comment period.

After the public comment period, the Staff Manager drafts a summary and analysis of the public comments received.

Final Issue Report
Staff produces a Final Issue Report that takes into account the public comments received during the public comment period, and then delivers it to the GNSO Council for review and deliberation. Although the Final Issue Report is to be delivered within 30 days of the closure of the public comment period, Staff may seek additional time to complete it.

The GNSO Council is expected to schedule a vote on whether to initiate the PDP on the topic at the next Council meeting following the delivery of the Final Issue Report.

Formal Initiation of the PDP by the GNSO Council

Initiation of a PDP based on a Board request
If the ICANN Board originally requested the Issue Report, the GNSO Council must confirm receipt of the Final Issue Report and initiate the PDP, without an intermediate vote by the Council itself.

Initiation of a PDP based on a Council member or AC request
If a member of the GNSO Council or an ICANN AC requested the Issue Report, initiation of the PDP proceeds as follows:
- If the Final Issue Report indicates that the issue *is* within the scope of the ICANN policy process and the GNSO, a PDP is initiated if either (a) more than one-third of the Council members of each House or (b) more than two-thirds of the Council members of one House vote in favor (see Article X, Section 3, paragraph 9(b), of the ICANN Bylaws); or
- If the Final Issue Report indicates that the issue is *not* within the scope of the ICANN policy process or the GNSO, a PDP is initiated only if a GNSO Supermajority votes in favor (see Article X, Section 3, paragraph 9(c), of the ICANN Bylaws).

Among the factors the Council may consider in its decision are:

- The availability of volunteer and Staff resources;
- How ICANN's budget and planning can best accommodate the PDP and/or its possible outcomes; and
- How the PDP is aligned with ICANN's Strategic Plan.

The Council should schedule its vote on the initiation of a PDP as follows (for details, see Section 7 of the [PDP Manual](#)):

- The GNSO Council should vote within 90 calendar days of receiving the Final Issue Report.
- If the Final Issue Report is received eight or more calendar days before the next scheduled Council meeting, the Council should schedule the vote at that meeting.
- If the Final Issue Report is received less than eight calendar days before the next scheduled Council meeting, the vote should be deferred to the meeting following its next meeting.
- At the request of a Council member, the vote may be postponed by one meeting. The Council may vote to postpone its consideration of a Final Issue Report by more than one meeting. A motion to postpone consideration for more than one meeting *fails* if the votes in favor of continuing consideration (that is, *against* a postponement) would be enough to initiate a PDP under the ICANN Bylaws (summarized above).

If the Council rejects the initiation of a PDP based on a Council member or AC request
If the GNSO Council rejects the initiation of a PDP based on an Issue Report requested by either a member of the Council or an ICANN AC, any Council member may appeal the decision.

If the Council rejects the initiation of a PDP based on an Issue Report requested by an ICANN AC, the AC or its representatives is afforded the opportunity to meet with Council representatives, particularly the Council members who voted against initiating the PDP. Following the meeting, the AC may submit to the Council a statement requesting a revote along with an explanation of the rationale for it.

After the initiation of a PDP
If time is a concern, the GNSO Council may direct certain PDP-related work to begin immediately upon approval of the initiation of the PDP, regardless of whether a PDP WG Charter has been approved.

Development and Approval of the PDP Charter

Upon initiation of a PDP, the GNSO Council should form a drafting team to prepare the Charter for the WG that will conduct the PDP.
The PDP Charter should address, at a minimum, the following topics regarding the WG conducting the PDP:

- WG identification;
- Mission, purpose and deliverables;
- Formation, staffing and organization; and
- Rules of engagement.

(For more information on these topics, see Section 6.2 of the GNSO Working Group Guidelines; this information is organized as a template that can be used to create the WG Charter.)

Approval of the PDP Charter
The Council votes on the proposed PDP Charter as follows:
- <u>At its next meeting</u> if the proposed Charter is received eight or more calendar days prior to the next scheduled Council meeting.
- <u>At the following meeting</u>, if the proposed Charter is received less than eight calendar days before the next scheduled Council meeting.

A proposed Charter is approved by the Council if the votes in favor of approval are:
- Either (a) more than one-third of the Council members of each House or (b) more than two-thirds of the Council members of one House, for those issues that are designated as within the GNSO's scope, or
- GNSO Supermajority Votes, for those issues that are designated as outside the GNSO's scope.

Amendment of the PDP Charter after approval
Once a PDP Charter is approved, its modification is discouraged, unless special circumstances exist. To modify or amend an approved PDP Charter, a simple majority of the Council members of each House in favor is required.

Formation and Activities of the PDP Working Group

Upon approval of the PDP Charter, the GNSO Council typically forms a PDP WG, as described in the GNSO Working Group Guidelines. In certain rare instances, the Council may choose a group structure other than a WG to conduct the PDP.

The PDP WG is responsible for the collection of information – based on which it forms its recommendations – regarding the issue. The following guidelines apply to this collection of information:
- The PDP WG may request that Staff retain advisors or experts outside of ICANN and the ICANN community. Staff will follow its standard procedures for retaining any such parties, including considering the budgetary impacts and feasibility of such requests.
- The PDP WG should solicit statements from each GNSO Stakeholder Group and Constituency early in the PDP.
- The PDP WG may seek, early in the PDP, the opinions of ICANN's other SOs and ACs that may have expertise, experience or interest in the issue.
- The PDP WG should also seek input from the broader ICANN community.

The PDP WG may seek information from ICANN departments that may have expertise or opinions regarding the feasibility of implementing a recommendation coming out of the PDP. Policy Staff serves as the intermediary between the PDP WG and the various ICANN departments.

Public comment periods for interim items
The PDP WG may at any time arrange a public comment period without first seeking Council approval.

Possible PDP outcomes
PDP WGs may make recommendations to the GNSO Council regarding a wide range of outcomes. These recommendations could include proposed Consensus Policies, best practices, implementation guidelines, registrar and registry agreement terms and conditions, budgetary matters, technical specifications, future policy development activities, advice to ICANN or to the ICANN Board and advice to other SOs or ACs.

Alternatively, a PDP WG may conclude that no recommendation is necessary.

Policy Staff Support
Policy Staff coordinates with the PDP WG Chair(s) to support and carry out PDP activities, including but not limited to scheduling and attending PDP WG meetings, drafting PDP reports, and publishing PDP reports for public comment.

Preparation of the PDP WG's Initial Report

The PDP WG prepares an Initial Report. This report – like the Final Report that follows it – should include:
- Compilations of all GNSO Stakeholder Group and Constituency statements;
- Compilation of all SO/AC statements;
- The PDP WG's PDP Recommendations;
- Designation of the level of consensus for each recommendation;
- Information about the members of the PDP WG, such as attendance records and Statements of Interest (SOIs); and
- Impact of the proposed PDP Recommendations;

The Initial Report may include these elements within its actual content or may refer readers to these elements on the ICANN Web site (e.g., via a hyperlink).

Public comment period
The Initial Report is delivered to the GNSO Council and posted for a public comment period of at least 30 days. If this period overlaps with an ICANN Public Meeting, the PDP WG should extend the public comment period by 7 additional calendar days.
The PDP WG is also encouraged to explore other means of soliciting input in addition to the typical ICANN public comment period, such as use of a survey in which more targeted questions could be asked.

Within 30 days of the closure of the public comment period, Staff must prepare a summary and analysis of the public comments for the PDP WG.

Preparation of the PDP WG's Final Report

The PDP WG deliberates and considers the comments received in the public comment forum and prepares a Final Report containing its final recommendations.

In preparing the Final Report, the PDP WG must:
- Incorporate public comments, as appropriate, to the Initial Report (it is not required that all comments received be included);
- Modify the Initial Report's PDP Recommendations to address those public comments or other concerns of the PDP WG;
- Add to the report (or reference in the report) the summary and analysis of the public comments received on the Initial Report; and
- Designate a level of consensus for each recommendation (see Section 3.6 of the GNSO Working Group Guidelines).

The resulting Final Report, once adequately considered and completed by the PDP WG, should be transmitted to the GNSO Council Chair so that the Council's deliberation process may begin.

Public comment period regarding the Final Report

Although the PDP WG is not required to post the Final Report for an additional public comment period, it may desire to do so to maximize transparency and to provide the ICANN community another opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed PDP recommendations.   This is generally appropriate when the Final Report differs considerably from the Initial Report, which is then published as a "Draft Final Report."

Staff may translate the executive summaries of both the Initial Report and Draft Final Report in the six U.N. languages (as permissible under the ICANN Language Services Policy and budget). The translation process should not delay the posting of the English version.

Following any such additional public comment period, the PDP WG incorporates any additional public comments received that it considers appropriate into the Final Report, before it is forwarded to the Council.

Consideration and Approval by the Council of the PDP Recommendations

Upon receipt of a Final Report, the GNSO Council deliberations on any recommendations proposed.

The Council may schedule a separate session with the PDP WG in order to discuss the Final Report and ask questions.

Timing of a Council vote
Section 12 of the PDP Manual describes the required timing and procedures for the Council to vote on the PDP Recommendations. In summary:

- Stakeholder Groups, Constituencies and Council members should be afforded sufficient time to review the Final Report before a motion is made to adopt its recommendations.
- The vote on the Final Report should be scheduled no later than during the second Council meeting following its receipt.
- Consideration of the PDP Recommendations may be deferred for one meeting.

Council approval of the PDP Recommendations

The Council approves the PDP Recommendations through a vote in favor as is described under the ICANN Bylaws (See Article X, Section 3, paragraphs 9(h)-(l), as illustrated in the voting threshold matrix.

The GNSO Council may adopt all, any or none of the PDP Recommendations in the Final Report. However, the GNSO Council is strongly discouraged from:

- Adopting some but not all recommendations that the PDP WG has identified as interdependent; or
- Modifying recommendations.

If, at the end of its deliberations the Council has concerns or proposed changes to the PDP Recommendations, it may pass these concerns back to the PDP WG for resolution.

Public comment period regarding the PDP Recommendations

PDP Recommendations approved by the GNSO Council are generally posted by the Board for a public comment period of no less than 21 days before the ICANN Board takes action on them (see Article III, Section 6, of the ICANN Bylaws).

Preparation of a Recommendations Report

Once the PDP Recommendations are approved by the GNSO Council, the Council may assign the drafting of a Recommendations Report (also called a "Board Report"). This Recommendations Report contains the PDP Recommendations and any related explanations the Council would like the ICANN Board to consider.   Policy Staff is available to assist with its drafting and will inform the Council of the Board-requested format for the Recommendations Report.

The completed Recommendations Report must be approved by the GNSO Council and then submitted to the ICANN Board. If feasible, it should be submitted in time to be considered during the first Board meeting following the Council's approval of the Final Report.

Staff Reports regarding the PDP Recommendations

Along with the Council's Recommendations Report, the Board also receives any Staff Reports that the ICANN Policy Staff feels are warranted regarding the PDP Recommendations. A Staff Report may address, for example, legal, implementation, financial and/or other operational issues.

Consideration and Adoption by the Board of the PDP Recommendations

The Board is expected to meet to consider the PDP Recommendations contained in a Recommendations Report from the GNSO Council as soon as is feasible, but preferably no later than its second meeting after receiving the report.

Board adoption of PDP Recommendations

The PDP Recommendations are generally to be adopted by the Board, except in the following cases (see Annex A, Section 9(a), of the ICANN Bylaws):

- If they were approved by a GNSO Supermajority, the Board is to adopt them unless more than two-thirds of the Board vote that they are not in the best interest of the ICANN community or of ICANN.

- If they were approved by less than a GNSO Supermajority, the Board is to adopt them unless a simple majority of the Board votes that they are not in the best interest of the ICANN community or of ICANN.

If the Board does not adopt PDP Recommendations

If the Board does not adopt the PDP Recommendations:
- The Board explains the reasons for its determination in a report (called the "Board Statement"), delivered to the Council.
- In response, the Council reviews the Board Statement and arranges to discuss it with the Board as soon as is feasible.
- After this discussion, the Council either affirms or modifies each of its PDP Recommendations, in the form of a Supplemental Recommendation.
- Each Supplemental Recommendation must then be approved by the Council and delivered to the Board.
- If a Supplemental Recommendation was approved by a GNSO Supermajority, the Board is to adopt it unless more than two-thirds of the Board votes that it is not in the best interest of the ICANN community or of ICANN.
- If the Supplemental Recommendation was approved by less than a GNSO Supermajority, the Board is to adopt it unless a simple majority of the Board votes that it is not in the best interest of the ICANN community or ICANN.

Implementation of Board-Adopted PDP Recommendations

Following the Board's adoption of PDP Recommendations, the Board may direct Staff to work with the GNSO Council to:
- Create an implementation plan for the PDP Recommendations, based on the implementation recommendations in the Final Report; and
- Implement the adopted PDP Recommendations in a timely fashion.

The GNSO Council may create an Implementation Review Team to assist Staff in developing the implementation details and/or in implementing the PDP Recommendations.

Staff then informs the GNSO of its proposed implementation plan for the PDP Recommendations. If the GNSO Council considers the Staff's proposed plan to be inconsistent with the Council's recommendations, the Council may notify the Board and request that it review the Staff's plan.

While the Board considers the Council's request, the Staff may continue developing the plan but should refrain from implementing the new policy until the Board resolves the request.

Maintenance of Records

Throughout a GNSO PDP – from the request for an Issue Report to the final Board vote – ICANN maintains, on the GNSO.ICANN.org web site, a publicly accessible web page that details the progress of each PDP issue. Each of these pages outline the completed and upcoming relevant PDP steps and contain links to key sources (such as reports, public comments and WG discussion transcriptions or recordings).

Early Termination of a PDP

The GNSO Council may terminate a PDP before the PDP WG publishes its Final Report only for a significant reason. To do so, a Council motion supported by a GNSO Supermajority to terminate the PDP (see Article X, Section 3, paragraph 9(i), of the ICANN Bylaws) is needed. A public comment period on the termination is needed if the PDP WG has not recommended termination of the PDP.

Modification of PDP Recommendations

The GNSO Council may modify or amend proposed PDP Recommendations that it has approved at any time before the final adoption of the recommendations by the ICANN Board if:
- The PDP WG (reconvened or reformed) is consulted regarding the Council-proposed modifications or amendments;
- The proposed amendments or modifications are posted for a public comment period of at least 30 days; and
- The Council approves the modifications or amendments with a GNSO Supermajority in favor (see Article X, Section 3, paragraph 9(k), of the ICANN Bylaws).

If PDP Recommendations have already been adopted by the ICANN Board and implemented by Staff, a new PDP should be initiated.

Periodic Assessment of Board-Adopted Policies

Periodic assessment of the effects of implemented policies is an important safeguard against their leading to unexpected results or inefficient processes.

The Final Report may specify the proposed timing, assessment method and metrics for the periodic review of the proposed PDP Recommendations. The GNSO Council may follow these proposals or otherwise initiate a review of any of its policies in effect at any time.

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