

Report of the Expert Working Group on gTLD Directory Services Meeting (21-22 March 2013)

Location: London, United Kingdom

Attendees:

EWG Members:

In Person: Jean-Francois Baril (Lead Facilitator), Pekka Ala-Pietila, Lanre Ajayi, Susan Kawaguchi, Nora Nanayakkara, Michael Niebel, Michele Neylon, Stephanie Perrin, Rod Rasmussen, Carlton Samuels, Faisal Shah, Fabricio Vayra, Steve Crocker (Board Liaison), Chris Disspain (Board Liaison)

Remote: Scott Hollenbeck

Apologies: Jin Jian

ICANN Participants:

In Person: Denise Michel, Margie Milam, Lisa Phifer, Charla Shambley

Topics Discussed:

- **User Requirements:** Building upon its LA agreement to freely explore new paradigms, the EWG considered a broad spectrum of potential use cases, working to identify all parties providing or using gTLD registration data and their purposes for doing so. High-priority focus areas, including domain name maintenance, technical issue resolution, trademark infringement and many others, were flagged as starting points for further detailed analysis of business requirements.
- **Data Requirements:** The EWG discussed the corpus of data related to gTLD domain name registration, agreeing that all data elements should be considered without limitation during requirements analysis. Specific data requirements are expected to emerge from use case development, where the EWG hopes to identify a minimum set of essential data elements.
- **Privacy Requirements:** Acknowledging that all parties which control or process gTLD registration data must comply with data protection directives, the team was briefed on data protection principles and privacy policy needs. A purpose statement was drafted to guide the EWG's efforts to address user requirements while ensuring accountability and protecting the privacy of gTLD domain name registrants.
- **Data Accuracy, Notice and Access Requirements:** The EWG agreed to consider what each data element is used for, the accuracy required to satisfy those uses, and levels of access that depend upon purpose. The EWG also agreed to consider an accountability framework, unified policy and more effective processes for remedying inaccurate and fraudulent directory data.

- **Storage Requirements:** The EWG discussed thick and thin directory alternatives for gTLD registration data storage and access interfaces, examining potential benefits and issues associated with both centralized and decentralized models. Consistent with freely considering new paradigms, the team agreed to further explore the concept of a uniform data model.
- **Work Plan:** A public introduction to the EWG's goals and methodology will be provided at the ICANN Beijing meeting on 7 April, 2013. All members of the ICANN community are invited to attend this open session to learn more about the EWG and provide input on foundational questions. The EWG expects to have future discussions with all stakeholder groups as our work evolves.