

Report of the Expert Working Group on gTLD Directory Services Meeting (28-29 August 2013)

Location: Washington, DC, USA

Attendees:

EWG Members:

In Person: Jean-Francois Baril (Lead Facilitator), Lanre Ajayi, Scott Hollenbeck, Jin Jian, Michael Niebel, Michele Neylon, Stephanie Perrin, Rod Rasmussen, Carlton Samuels, Faisal Shah, Fabricio Vayra, Steve Crocker (Board Liaison), Chris Disspain (Board Liaison)

ICANN Participants:

In Person: Denise Michel, Margie Milam, Lisa Phifer, Alice Jansen

Topics Discussed:

- **Public Comments and Questions:** The EWG continued to review feedback on its initial draft, including comments received in stakeholder briefings in Durban and teleconferences, submitted via [on-line questionnaire](#) and emailed to input-to-ewg@icann.org. All feedback received is available for public review at <https://community.icann.org/display/WG/Input+to+EWG>. In response to community requests for more time to comment, the submission deadline has been [extended until 6 September 2013](#).

The EWG factored feedback to date into its deliberations at this meeting, including concerns about the ARDS model and alternatives for a system that could better meet diverse stakeholder needs for registration data. While some feedback questions the need to replace today's Whois, EWG members agreed to remain focused on the board's directive to take a fresh approach to redefine the purpose and provision of gTLD registration data. The EWG intends to carefully consider all comments received by 6 September, using them to inform its continuing work.

- **Open Areas:** As planned in Durban, the EWG devoted the entire month of August, including the bulk of this face-to-face meeting, to developing new principles and processes for open areas not fully addressed in its initial report.

Progress was made in the following areas: possible models and resulting costs/impacts, applicable law and cross-jurisdictional issues, accreditation of RDS users and defined purposes, data elements and role-based contacts, a process for data pre-validation and inaccuracy audit/remediation, privacy/proxy services and secure protected credentials, multi-modal directory access protocol needs and use of RDAP to fulfill them, and data storage, escrow and logging principles. The EWG plans to continue its work on these and other open areas, in parallel with public comment review.

- **Information Gathering:** To obtain details about misuse of Whois data, how law enforcement agencies use Whois and processes for lawful access to data beyond Whois, the EWG questioned members of the law enforcement community. Agencies participating in-person and remotely in this Q&A included EC3 Europol, Interpol, FBI, NTIA, DEA, FTC and the Quebec Provincial Police.

The EWG expects to continue consulting with these and other subject matter experts to further inform its work on open areas, recognizing that a firm understanding of existing uses is essential to propose a new system to better address concerns of the entire community.

- **EWG Objectives and Work Plan:** The EWG expects to continue its work through conference calls and a face-to-face meeting in Los Angeles in early October. The EWG hopes to publish a further report in late October for discussion at the Buenos Aires ICANN meeting. The EWG's final report will be delivered to the ICANN board and used as focused input to GNSO policy work.