Report of the Expert Working Group on gTLD Directory Services Meeting (8-10 October 2013)

Location: Los Angeles, CA, USA

Attendees:

EWG Members:

In Person: Lanre Ajayi, Scott Hollenbeck, Susan Kawaguchi, Michael Niebel, Michele Neylon, Stephanie Perrin, Rod Rasmussen, Carlton Samuels, Faisal Shah, Fabricio Vayra, Steve Crocker (Board Liaison)

Remote: Chris Disspain (Board Liaison)

ICANN Participants:

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

Topics Discussed:

- **Public Comments:** In September, the EWG completed a thorough review of public comments on its initial report. At this meeting, the EWG used comments to pinpoint where clarifications were needed, where concerns should be investigated, and where alternatives should be considered. The EWG plans to publish a comment resolution summary before the Buenos Aires meeting.

- **Open Areas:** At this meeting, the EWG continued its work on developing new principles and processes for open areas not fully addressed in its initial report, including possible models and resulting costs, jurisdictional impacts, RDS user accreditation for permissible purposes, data element classification, contact data validation, proxy services and secure protected credentials, and directory access protocol needs. The EWG made considerable progress in all of these areas by conference calls held throughout August and September. At this meeting, draft outputs were reviewed to solidify proposed principles and processes. In addition, the EWG identified a short list of topics needing deeper analysis to address concerns and inform final recommendations.

- **Information Gathering:** To obtain details about commercially-available data validation services, the EWG received a lunchtime briefing from Christopher Davis and Norm Ritchie, founders of the Secure Domain Foundation. This Canadian non-profit has developed a free postal address validation API and is now working on an API for telephone number validation. The EWG hopes to draw from the SDF's work to shape proposed principles for validation of registration data and better understand the potential limitations and costs associated with such validation services.

- **EWG Objectives and Work Plan:** The EWG plans to continue its work through conference calls and a face-to-face meeting in Buenos Aires in November. To share its progress with the ICANN community, the EWG expects to publish a Status Update report for discussion at the Buenos Aires ICANN meeting. At the Buenos Aires meeting, the group will present an overview of its

proposal for a next-generation gTLD Registration Data Service in a public session on Wednesday 20 November from 8:30-10:00. To enable dialog on proposed principles, especially in open areas, the group invites all interested community members to an open EWG session that same afternoon, from 16:30-17:30. The EWG expects to reconvene in March 2014 to apply community feedback and analysis results, finalizing its report to the ICANN Board by June 2014.