



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

13 December 2013

Chairs of ICANN Supporting Organizations & Advisory Committees
Chair of ICANN Country Code Names Supporting Organization Council

Dear SO and AC Chairs,

Follow-up on invitation to participate in a cross-community working group framework discussion

I am writing to follow up on my previous letter of 4th November 2013, inviting you and your community to collaborate with the GNSO and all other interested SO/ACs, in order to develop a general framework of operating principles for the formation and operation of cross-community working groups. The intention being that a well drafted set of principles will allow us to work effectively together on issues of common interest, whilst accounting for each of our differing mandates and remits.

As I mentioned in my previous letter, ICANN policy staff was asked to consolidate and summarize previous community work in this regard, beginning with the initial draft principles previously proposed by the GNSO and including feedback received from the ccNSO. I have included the completed staff paper for your reference, in anticipation that it will assist you and your community with your decision on participation in the new cross-community drafting team that we are proposing be formed with the objective of updating and improving the initial draft principles. I would greatly appreciate it if you could inform your community of this opportunity, and let me or the GNSO Secretariat (gnso-secs@icann.org) know who amongst you may be interested in joining this collaborative effort.

In view of the likely ongoing requirement for cross community work (as evidenced by the recent discussions on internet governance arising from the CEO's proposal to form one or more CWGs in Buenos Aires), I hope you will agree that a collaborative effort to create a robust framework for all such groups in the future is a helpful and timely project for our broader community. Whilst the post-Buenos Aires cross-community working group may need to work to a more immediate deadline than this effort, I hope that all interested SOs and ACs can engage with this proposal.

The background documents, including the new staff paper and the initial principles developed by the GNSO drafting team last year are available here: <http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/cross-community>.

I look forward to your response and to potentially working with you and your community on this timely and important topic.

Best wishes,

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Chair, ICANN GNSO Council

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