Introduction to Policy Issues at ICANN

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ICANN

Goals for this Session

Another way to look at ICANN Policy Processes

Overview of some Policy issues currently under discussion

The Policy Tussle

Policy & Implementation

Acronyms

Possibly most important aspect to understanding ICANN and doing policy

- Official: http://gnso.icann.org/en/acronyms.html
- Most useful: http://www.andalucia.com/icann/

Other

ways of looking at ICANN
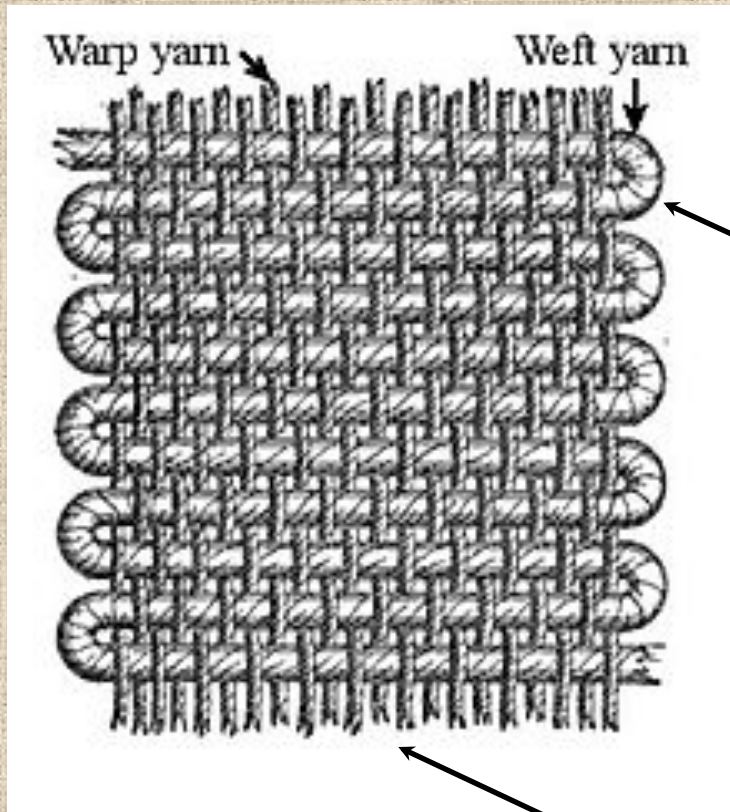
Two Views on ICANN

A. ICANN is a private sector led multistakeholder volunteer organization which has a staff that assists the community, of which it is part, with making policy and is responsible for implementation and enforcement of that policy.

B. ICANN is a public non profit corporation whose staff is not only responsible for running the organization with a postive cash flow, but must also manage a large noisy community with strong opinions.

A large part of ICANN activity must cope with this tussle. ICANN has work to get done and the staff is charged with getting work done. But the community must determine how it is done and is repsonsible for <u>all</u> ICANN's policies.

ICANN Multistakeholder Matrix

Warp yarn — Weft yarn

Supporting organizations (SO)
- Weft provides the pattern of the cloth
- Focused on Specific Tasks

Address SO
Generic Name SO
Country Code SO

Other Structures

Advisory Committees (AC)
- Warp provides the continuity and strength of the cloth
- Principles and other advice

Government AC
At-Large AC
Security and Stability AC
Router Server System AC

Pictures Borrowed from wikipedia article on Weaving

Overview
Range of Policy Issues

ALAC

At Large Advisory Committee

Has a role in any ICANN policy discussion

Especially User concerns

- [At-Large WG on Future Challenges](#)
- [IDN Policy](#)
- [At-Large New gTLDs Working Group](#)
- [At-Large Registration Issues Working Group](#)

GAC

Government Advisory Committee

Has a role in any ICANN policy discussion.

Especially Public Policy

GAC Register of Advice, on

- ccTLDs (16)
- Contractual Compliance (2)
- Ethics and Conflict of Interest (2)
- ICANN Accountability and Transparency (2)
- ICM Registry (aka .xxx) (1)
- New gTLDS (76)
- Registrar Accreditation Agreement (5)
- WHOIS (10)

SSAC

Security and Stability Advisory Committee

Works Confidentially

Security and Integrity of Internet's naming and address allocation systems

Recent Reports

[SAC065]   SSAC Advisory on DDoS Attacks Leveraging DNS Infrastructure (18 February 2014)

[SAC064]   SSAC Advisory on Search List Processing (13 February 2014)

[SAC063]   SSAC Advisory on DNSSEC Key Rollover in the Root Zone (07 November 2013)

[SAC062]   SSAC Advisory Concerning the Mitigation of Name Collision Risk (07 November 2013)

[SAC061]   SSAC Comment on ICANN¹s Initial Report from the Expert Working Group on gTLD Directory Services (06 September 2013)

[SAC060]   SSAC Comment on Examining the User Experience Implications of Active Variant TLDs Report (23 July 2013)

[SAC059]   SSAC Letter to the ICANN Board Regarding Interdisciplinary Studies (18 April 2013)

[SAC058]   SSAC Report on Domain Name Registration Data Validation (27 March 2013)

[SAC057]   SSAC Advisory on Internal Name Certificates (15 March 2013)

[SAC056]   SSAC Advisory on Impacts of Content Blocking via the Domain Name System (09 October 2012)

RSSAC

DNS Root Server System Advisory Committee

Matters relating to the operation, administration, security, and integrity of the Internet's Root Server System

Recently reorganized

ASO

Address Supporting Organization

Internet Protocol (IP) address policy

- [Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Policy For Allocation of IPv6 Blocks to Regional Internet Registries](#)
- [Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Policy for Allocation of ASN Blocks to Regional Internet Registries](#)
- [Global Policy for Post Exhaustion IPv4 Allocation Mechanisms by the IANA](#)
- [ICP-2: Criteria for Establishment of New Regional Internet Registries](#)

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ccNSO

Country Code Names Supporting Organization

Forum for country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) managers

- [ccNSO Council Interim Comments on the IANA Transition](#)
  - Formation of IANA Transfer Coordination Committee
- 29-2014: Report on Supporting the Domain Name Industry in Underserved Regions
- 24-2014: Internationalised Registration Data (IRD) Expert Working Group Interim Report
- 23-2014: NETmundial submission by Cross Community Working Group (CCWG) on Internet Governance

GNSO

Generic Name Supporting Organization

Responsible for all gTLD policy recommendations

- Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy (IRTP) Part D Working Group

- Locking of a Domain Name Subject to UDRP Proceedings PDP Working Group

- GNSO Data & Metrics for Policy Making Working Group

- Privacy & Proxy Services Accreditation Issues Working Group

- gTLD Registration Data Services

- Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information PDP

Active Projects

Community Wide

NTIA Stewardship,

And

Accountability

- Transition of Stewardship of IANA Functions
    - In response to the NTIA announcement and request, ICANN, at the ICANN 49 Meeting in Singapore on 24 March, launched a multistakeholder-designed process to gather the community's views and proposals to address how the mechanisms for the transition of NTIA's stewardship of the IANA functions should occur.
- Enhancing ICANN Accountabiity
    - This discussion will look at how ICANN remains accountable in the absence of its historical contractual relationship to the U.S. Government and the perceived backstop with regard to ICANN's organization-wide accountability provided by that role. While closely related to the ongoing discussions around the IANA Stewardship Transition, this is a separate process.

The Policy Tussle

Problem Statement

- Each Supporting Organization (SO) does its own thing
- Each Advisory committee (AC) does its own thing.
- While internally consistent, the output of the various process is not compatible.
- Board gets
  - Recommendation from the SO that is should accept
  - Advice from each of several AC that it should heed
    - If they are incompatible
      - Board make top down decision, or
      - The process dead ends
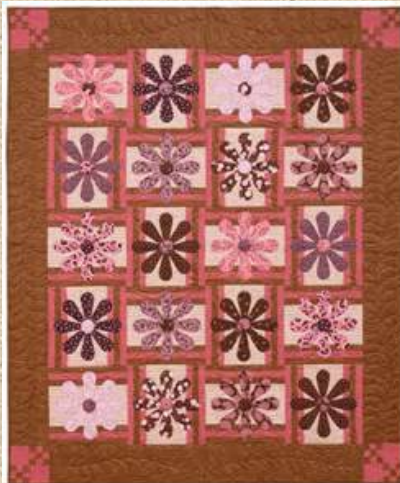   - In either case it is a poor outcome

Solution Space

Early Engagement
Aka
Breaking the silos

GNSO Example

- GNSO uses Working Groups that are charged with finding ICANN Consensus among as diverse a group as can be gathered into the working group.
  - Strong participation from At Large
  - Weak participation from
    - GAC,
    - SSAC
    - RSSAC

- **Develop other means of early Engagement**
  - Joint effort between GNSO and GAC to develop methods of early engagement.
  - Specific steps to be taken by GNSO whenever an SSAC report released.
  - Joint working groups – currently a joint effort to develop a start process for creating joint working groups.

Policy & Implementation

Problem Statement

Implementation often seems to ignore Policy
What can we do?

The Working Group is tasked to provide the GNSO Council with a set of recommendations on:

- A set of principles that would underpin any GNSO policy and implementation related discussions, taking into account existing GNSO Operating Procedures.

- A process for developing gTLD policy, perhaps in the form of "Policy Guidance", including criteria for when it would be appropriate to use such a process (for developing policy other than "Consensus Policy") instead of a GNSO Policy Development Process;

- A framework for implementation related discussions associated with GNSO Policy Recommendations;

- Criteria to be used to determine when an action should be addressed by a policy process and when it should be considered implementation, and;

- Further guidance on how GNSO Implementation Review Teams, as defined in the PDP Manual, are expected to function and operate.

Where does policy stop and Implementation begin?

GNSO WG

Policy & Implementation

[Working Definitions](#) of words like

- Stakeholder
- Policy, Policy Development, GNSO Policy, Policy Advice
- Consensus, GNSO consensus Policy
- Implement, Implementation, Implementation review team
- Principle, Multistakeholder model, ICANN multistakeholder model

[Working Principles](#) such as

- Multistakeholderism (m17m): Policy at ICANN comes from the community in a bottom-up manner and must adhere to standards of development.
- Implementation and policy are rarely if ever completely separate, there needs to be a way for policy to check implementation.
- But the amount of time it take to do policy should not stall operations.

Recommendations

- Work Just Starting on these

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Reference on the P&I group

- [Policy & Implementation Working Group](#)
- [Background Documents](#) especially:
  - [Staff Discussion Paper](#)

How to Stay Updated

Policy Update Monthly

- Published mid-month

- Read online at:
  http://www.icann.org/en/topics/policy/

- Subscribe at:
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- Available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish

Participate in the Policy Update Webinar

- Prior to every ICANN meeting

- Latest updates on policy related developments as well as information on events taking place at ICANN meeting

- See http://www.icann.org/en/news/announcements for further information

ICANN Policy Staff

ICANN Policy Staff

Global Mission

- **24 Staff**
- **9 Countries**
- **5 Time Zones**
- **12 Languages (4 UN)**
- **Subject Experts / Secretariat Support**

"**Support …**
bottom-up, consensus policies and guidelines …"

ICANN Policy Team Goals

Help Our Community
- Create policies and guidelines that are:
  - Implementable and effective
  - Developed through a highly participative, fair, and balanced process in a timely and efficient way

Support Our Community
- Engage and support the participation of all necessary stakeholders
- Inform and educate stakeholders

Manage Processes
- Manage the policy process efficiently and effectively to benefit the global Internet community
- …frequently as important as outcomes

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Thank You & Questions?

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Contact staff at policy-staff@icann.org

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Weave