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GNSO Review Update

Community Update | 21 June 2015

Scope of Review

1

Objective

- Examine organizational effectiveness by examining GNSO's functions
- Include Working Groups, Council and Stakeholder Groups/Constituencies
- Structural topics are likely to arise as part of this work
- Findings and recommendations may cause the GNSO to implement structural changes as well as other adjustments

2

Selection

- Competitive bidding process
- Tightly scoped contract

3

Work Methods

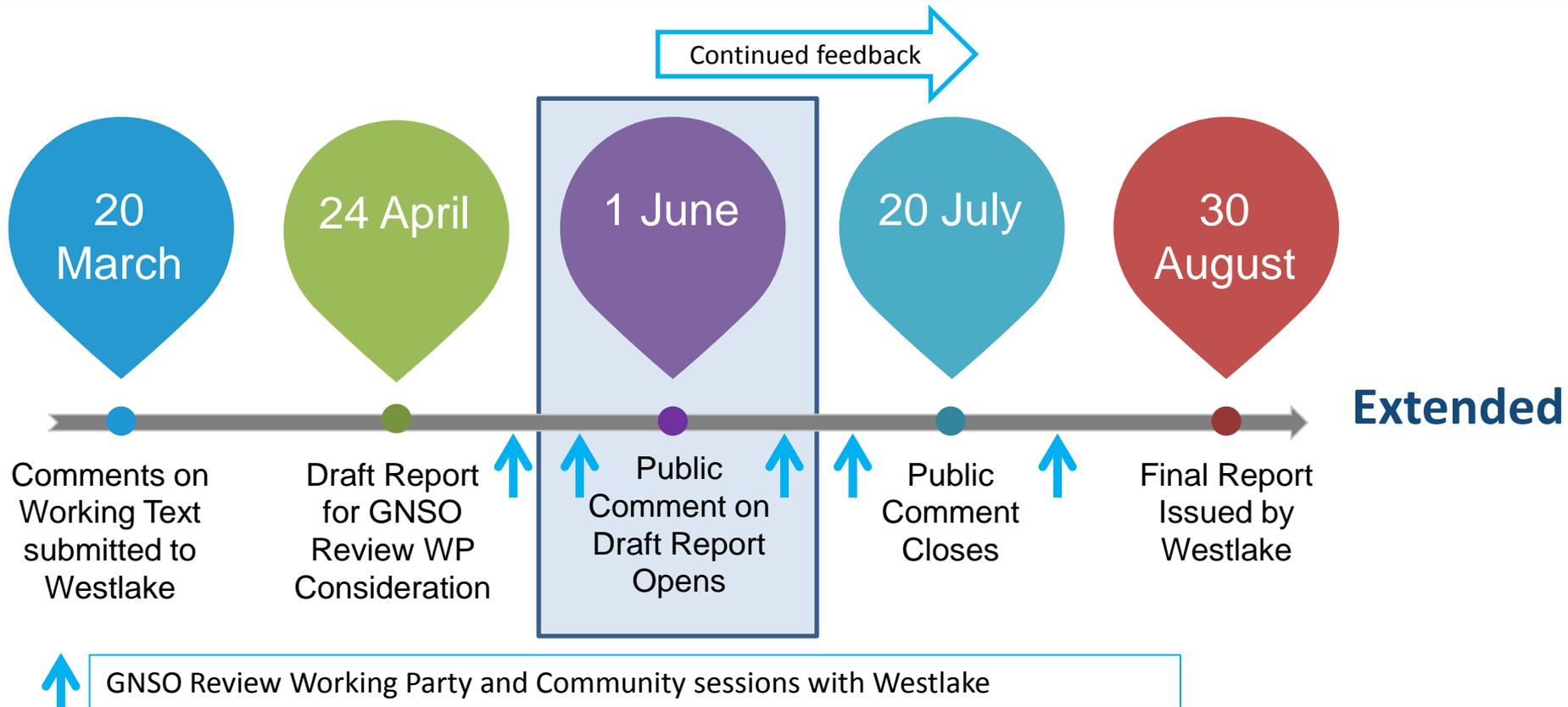
- Online "360" assessment – GNSO community, ICANN community and other SO/ACs, Board and staff
- Review of documents and proceedings
- Integration of Assessments from ATRT2
- Limited interviews

4

Criteria

- Objective and quantifiable
- Selected from developed lists
- Used for examination, online assessment and interviews

GNSO Review Timeline – Where Are We Now?



Highlights:

- ✓ Comments from the Working Party were incorporated into the Draft Report posted for Public Comment on 1 June.
- ✓ Timeline has been extended to include multiple additional opportunities for the GNSO Review Working Party to continue the ongoing process of providing feedback to Westlake

Westlake Governance Review Methodology

1

Progress Since Last Review

Reviewed and assessed progress of initiatives in response to Board-approved recommendations from prior review

2

PDPs

Reviewed timelines and progress of PDP's that have been conducted by the GNSO

3

Surveys

Developed and administered surveys for quantitative and qualitative feedback

- Main survey: 152 completed responses
- Supplementary survey (WG): 26 completed responses

4

Interviews

Conducted 40 interviews at ICANN51 and later via phone and Skype.

5

Draft Report

Submitted 29 May, incorporating feedback from GNSO Review WP. Posted for Public Comment 1 June.

6

Final Report

Input from the Public Comment period will be considered before publishing the Final Report in August 2015

Draft Report – Contents

1. Report Summary
 - Full Recommendations (36) and Themes (4)
2. Context For This Review
3. Review Methodology
4. Adopting a Working Group Model
5. Revise the Policy Development Process
6. Restructure GNSO Council
7. Enhance Constituencies
8. Improve Communication & Coordination with ICANN Structures
9. Changing Environment
- Appendices

Overall Themes and Draft Recommendations

36 recommendations under 4 Themes

1

**Participation and
Representation**

- 16 recommendations

2

**Continuous
Development**

- 14 recommendations

3

Transparency

- 4 recommendations

4

**Alignment with
ICANN's Future**

- 2 recommendations

Theme 1: *Participation and Representation* – 1

Rec. 1	Develop and monitor metrics to evaluate the ongoing effectiveness of current outreach strategies and pilot programmes with regard to GNSO WGs (as noted in the WG participation recommendations under section 5.4.5).
Rec. 2	Develop and fund more targeted programmes to recruit volunteers and broaden participation in PDP WGs, given the vital role volunteers play in Working Groups and policy development.
Rec. 3	Review the level, scope and targeting of financial assistance to ensure volunteers are able to participate on a footing comparable with those who participate in GNSO as part of their profession.
Rec. 4	Explore a tailored incentive system to increase the motivation of volunteers. (For example, this may include training & development opportunities or greater recognition of individuals).
Rec. 5	Continue initiatives that aim to reduce the barriers to newcomers.
Rec. 6	That the GNSO record and regularly publish statistics on WG participation (including diversity statistics).

Theme 1: *Participation and Representation* – 2

Rec. 7	That SGs and Cs explore and implement ways to engage more deeply with community members whose first language is other than English, as a means to overcoming language barriers.
Rec. 12	That ICANN assess the feasibility of providing a real-time transcribing service in audio conferences for prioritised PDP WGs.
Rec. 19	As strategic manager rather than a policy body the GNSO Council should continue to focus on ensuring that a WG has been properly constituted, has thoroughly fulfilled the terms of its charter and has followed due process.
Rec. 23	That the GNSO Council and SGs and Cs adhere to the published process for applications for new constituencies. That the ICANN Board in assessing an application satisfy itself that all parties have followed due process. Subject to the application meeting the conditions, the default outcome should be that a new Constituency is admitted.
Rec. 25	That the GNSO Council commission the development of, and implement, guidelines to provide assistance for groups wishing to establish a new Constituency.
Rec. 32	That ICANN define ‘cultural diversity’ and that relevant metrics (encompassing geographic, gender, age group and cultural, possibly by using birth language) be monitored and published.

Theme 1: *Participation and Representation* – 3

Rec. 33	That SGs, Cs and the Board’s Nominating Committee, in selecting their candidates for appointment to the GNSO Council, should aim to increase the geographic, gender and cultural diversity of its participants, as defined in ICANN Core Value 4.
Rec. 34	That PDP WGs rotate the start time of their meetings in order not to disadvantage people who wish to participate from anywhere in the world. This should be the norm for PDP WG meetings even if at first all the WG’s members come from the “traditional” regions of North America and Europe.
Rec. 35	That the GNSO Council establish a WG, whose membership specifically reflects the demographic, culture and gender diversity of the Internet as a whole, to identify and develop ways to reduce barriers to participation in the GNSO by non-English speakers and those with limited command of English.
Rec. 36	That, when approving the formation of a PDP WG, the GNSO Council require that its membership represent as far as reasonably practicable the geographic, cultural and gender diversity of the Internet as a whole. Additionally, that when approving GNSO Policy, the ICANN Board explicitly satisfy itself that the GNSO Council undertook these actions when approving the formation of a PDP WG.

Theme 2: *Continuous Development* – 1

Rec. 8	That WGs should have an explicit role in responding to implementation issues related to policy they have developed, and that the current Policy and Implementation Working Group specifically address the role of WGs in responding to policy implementation issues.
Rec. 9	That a formal Working Group leadership assessment programme be developed as part of the overall training and development programme.
Rec. 10	That a professional facilitator/moderator is used in certain situations (for example, when policy issues are complex, where members of the WG are generally inexperienced and/or where WG members have interests that conflict), and that the GNSO develop guidelines for the circumstances in which professional facilitators/moderators are used for Working Groups.
Rec. 11	That the face-to-face PDP WG pilot project be assessed when completed. If the results are beneficial, guidelines should be developed and support funding made available.
Rec. 13	That ICANN evaluate one or more alternative decision support systems and experiment with these for supporting WGs.

Theme 2: *Continuous Development* – 2

Rec. 14	That the GNSO further explores PDP ‘chunking’ and examines each potential PDP as to its feasibility for breaking into discrete stages.
Rec. 15	That the GNSO continues current PDP Improvements Project initiatives to address timeliness of the PDP.
Rec. 16	That a policy impact assessment (PIA) be included as a standard part of any policy process.
Rec. 17	That the practice of Working Group self-evaluation becomes standard at the completion of the WG’s work; and that these evaluations should be published and used as a basis for continual process improvement in the PDP.
Rec. 18	That the GNSO Council evaluate post implementation policy effectiveness on an ongoing basis (rather than periodically as stated in the current GNSO Operating Procedures); and that these evaluations are analysed by the GNSO Council to monitor and improve the drafting and scope of future PDP Charters and facilitate the effectiveness of GNSO policy outcomes over time.

Theme 2: *Continuous Development* – 3

Rec. 22	<p>That the GNSO should review and implement a revised training and development programme encompassing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Skills and competencies for each Council member– Training and development needs identified– Training and development relevant to each Council member– Formal assessment system with objective measures– Continual assessment and review.
Rec. 29	<p>That new members of WGs and newcomers at ICANN meetings be surveyed to determine how well their input is solicited and accepted by the community, and that the results be published and considered by the GNSO Council at its next meeting.</p>
Rec. 30	<p>That the GNSO develop and implement a policy for the provision of administrative support for SGs and Cs; and that SGs and Cs annually review and evaluate the effectiveness of administrative support they receive.</p>
Rec. 31	<p>That the GAC-GNSO Consultation Group on GAC Early Engagement in the GNSO Policy Development Process continue its two work streams as priority projects. As a part of its work it should consider how the GAC could appoint a non-binding, non-voting liaison to the WG of each relevant GNSO PDP as a means of providing timely input.</p>

Theme 3: *Transparency*

Rec. 24	That all applications for new constituencies, including historic applications, be published on the ICANN website with full transparency of decision-making.
Rec. 26	That GNSO Council members, Executive Committee members of SGs and Cs and members of WGs complete and maintain a current, comprehensive Sol. Where individuals represent bodies or clients, this information is to be posted. If not posted because of client confidentiality, the participant's interest or position must be disclosed. Failing either of these, the individual not be permitted to participate.
Rec. 27	That the GNSO establish and maintain a centralised publicly available list of members of every Constituency and Stakeholder Group (with a link to the individual's SOI where one is required and posted).
Rec. 28	That section 6.1.2 of the GNSO Operating Procedures be revised to clarify that key clauses are mandatory rather than advisory, and to institute meaningful sanctions for non-compliance where appropriate. (A draft is included in Appendix 6.)

Theme 4: *Alignment with ICANN's Future*

Rec. 20	That the GNSO Council should review annually ICANN's Strategic Objectives with a view to planning future policy development that strikes a balance between ICANN's Strategic Objectives and the GNSO resources available for policy development.
Rec. 21	The GNSO Council should regularly undertake or commission analysis of trends in gTLDs in order to forecast their likely requirements for policy and to ensure those affected are well-represented in the policy-making process.

9. Changing Environment



Operating environment is changing

- Demographic structure of the Internet
- Diversity
- IDNs
- New gTLDs
- GNSO Structure (?)

Community Engagement

**10
Sessions at
ICANN53**

**Communications:
Blog
Video
Social Media**

**Template to
Facilitate Public
Comment
Responses**

**Initial Feasibility
Assessment of
Proposed
Recommendations**

**Planning Ahead
to
Implementation
Phase**

**Continued
Feedback from
Working Party**

Provide your input – make your voice heard



Public Comment

- ❖ Opened 1 June
- ❖ Closes 20 July

<https://www.icann.org/public-comments/gnso-review-draft-2015-06-01-en>

Useful Links and Q&A



Thank You and Questions

-  [GNSO Review Working Party Home Page](#)
-  [Independent Examiner Information](#)
-  [Draft Report of Independent Examiner](#)
-  [GNSO Review Working Party Activities, Milestones and Statistics](#)
-  [Summary and Resolution of Working Party Comments](#)