

Draft Transmittal Letter for EP-WG Consideration – 19 March 2015 v2

Date: X March 2015

To: GNSO Council Members and ICANN Board Members

Subject: EWG Process Working Group (EP-WG)'s Proposed Framework
for a PDP WG on Next-Generation Registration Directory Services (RDS)

The purpose of this letter is to transmit to the GNSO Council and ICANN Board the EP-WG's proposed framework for a PDP WG on Next-Generation RDS.

This framework was developed by the EP-WG¹, a collaboration between the GNSO and Board formed to consider the [Expert Working Group \(EWG\) on Next-Generation Registration Directory Service's Final Report](#) and recommend how to best structure resulting PDP(s) for success – that is, to propose a process which leads to new policies defining the purpose of gTLD registration data and improving accuracy, privacy, and access to that data.

(insert brief high-level description of framework, drawn from page 1 of EP-WG's output)

An overview of the EP-WG's proposal was presented to the GNSO Council and to the ICANN Community at ICANN-52. We appreciated the questions asked by all; they were instrumental in clarifying our proposed approach. We subsequently updated the framework to address the questions raised in Singapore, which are listed below.

With this transmittal letter, the EP-WG hereby relays our proposed framework to the GNSO Council and the ICANN Board for consideration.

Given the amount of time that has passed since the November 2012 [Board Resolution](#) requesting a board-initiated PDP (along with implementation of WHOIS Review Team improvements and full enforcement of existing consensus policy and contractual conditions relating to gTLD WHOIS data), we recommend that (through the CEO) Staff be directed to use the attached framework to draft a new Preliminary Issue Report. The EP-WG will confirm that our proposed framework has been accurately reflected in that Issue Report and, at the conclusion of the Public Comment period, the EP-WG may reconvene once more as a group to review comments and identify any needed changes to our proposed framework. These will be fed back into Staff preparation of a Final Issue Report for consideration by the GNSO Council.

We believe these recommended next steps allow the PDP to progress towards adoption of a charter, formation of a PDP WG, and the conduct of a PDP on next-generation registration directory services as directed by Board [Resolution 2012.11.08.01](#).

If you have any questions about this transmittal letter or attachment, the EP-WG and supporting Staff can be reached at <ewg-process-wg@icann.org>

Sincerely,

Susan Kawaguchi
Chair, EWG Process Working Group

¹ EP-WG members: James Bladel, Don Blumenthal, Cherine Chalaby, Ching Chiao, Steve Crocker, Chris Disspain, Avri Doria, Susan Kawaguchi, Ram Mohan, Ray Plzak, Dan Reed, Jonathan Robinson, Bruce Tonkin

Questions raised at ICANN-52, clarified in the attached framework

- What is meant by structuring PDP(s) for success
- Pre-PDP WG steps to be completed prior to PDP WG initiation
- Existing and recommended inputs to inform the PDP, including
 - The compendium of historical and current work on WHOIS
 - The EWG's Final Report and FAQs, tutorials, and EWG member statements
 - Community feedback on the Preliminary Issue Report, including draft charter
 - Related GNSO PDP outputs, including PPSAI and Translation/Transliteration
 - New inputs on Cost Impact, Risks and Benefits
- Need to consider all issue areas in Phase 1 together
- Expected outcome of the PDP WG Phase 1
- Goal of GNSO Council decision point at the end of Phase 1 and possible outcomes
- Examples to illustrate outcome progression from Phase 1 to 2 to 3
- Need for a PDP WG process that
 - Is transparent and consistent with the defined PDP process
 - Reflects interdependencies and opportunities for parallelism
 - Takes into consideration resourcing from all stakeholder groups
 - Involves external experts during Phases 2 and 3 as needed