

WHOIS Recommendation 1 Implementation

Strategic Priority

30 June 2015

Implementation 1 Timeline



Recommendation 1 Implementation Description

It is recommended that WHOIS, in all its aspects, should be a strategic priority for ICANN the organization. It should form the basis of staff incentivization and published organizational objectives.

To support WHOIS as a strategic priority, the ICANN board should create a committee that includes the CEO. The committee should be responsible for advancing the strategic priorities required to ensure the following:

- Implementation of this report's recommendations;
- Fulfillment of data accuracy objectives over time;
- Follow up on relevant reports (e.g. NORC data accuracy study);
- Reporting on progress on all aspects of WHOIS (policy development, compliance, and advances in the protocol / liaison with SSAC and IETF);
- Monitoring effectiveness of senior staff performance and the extent to which ICANN Compliance function is effective in delivering WHOIS outcomes, and taking appropriate action to remedy any gaps (see Recommendation 4 for more discussion of compliance).

Advancement of the WHOIS strategic priority objectives should be a major factor in staff incentivization programs for ICANN staff participating in the committee, including the CEO. Regular (at least annual) updates on progress against targets should be given to the Community within ICANN's regular reporting channels, and should cover all aspects of WHOIS including protocol, policy development, studies and their follow up.

Status of Deliverables

	Responsible	Due Date
WHOIS included in Five Year Strategic Plan as part of Strategic Objective 2.1, and funded in the FY16 Operating Plan and Budget ;	Staff	✓
CEO oversaw improvements to WHOIS obligations in contracts, including, adoption of 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) and the base New gTLD Registry Agreement;	Staff	✓
Whols Accuracy Reporting System transitioned from Pilot to implementation and on-going operations	Staff	✓
Staff is incentivized through ICANN's compensation system, as WHOIS projects are identified in both WorkFront and the Halogen management system	Staff	✓
The CEO's compensation is tied to performance against the strategic objectives of ICANN as laid out in the Strategic Plan, which includes references to WHOIS.	Staff	✓
Board receives CEO updates, on a trimester basis, on the status of ICANN's key organizational activities, including WHOIS improvements.	Staff	✓
Organizational Effectiveness Committee created by the Board July 28, 2015 to be responsible for review and oversight of policies relating to ICANN's ongoing organizational review process mandated by Article IV, Section 4 of ICANN's Bylaws.	Staff	✓



✓ Complete



Planned/In Process



Behind schedule, expected to recover within original plan



Behind schedule, original plan to be adjusted

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Project Status

1a. WHOIS as a strategic priority

WHOIS included in [Five Year Strategic Plan](#) as part of Strategic Objective 2.1, and funded in the [FY16 Operating Plan and Budget](#);

- 5-Year Strategic Plan Page 11, Section 2.1: [Header] Foster and Coordinate a healthy, secure, and resilient identifier ecosystem
- [Key Success Factor]- Globally accepted, reliable, secure, and trusted services to facilitate access to, and update of, identifier registration data.
- FY16 Operating Plan and Budget (pages 39-43) allocates USD1.4 million for WHOIS core functions/service & improvements that includes implementation of AoC WHOIS Review Team Recommendations.

CEO oversaw improvements to WHOIS obligations in contracts, including, adoption of 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) and the base New gTLD Registry Agreement;

[Allen Grogan appointed as the new ICANN Chief Contract Compliance Officer](#) to oversee Contract Compliance and Consumer Safeguards enhancements, including WHOIS.

Whois Accuracy Reporting System transitioned from Pilot to implementation and on-going operations

1b. ICANN Staff incentivization

•Staff is incentivized through ICANN's compensation system, as WHOIS projects are identified in both WorkFront and the Halogen management system.

•The CEO's compensation is tied to performance against the strategic objectives of ICANN as laid out in the Strategic Plan, which includes references to WHOIS.

1c. Board involvement in WHOIS improvements

•Board receives CEO updates, on a trimester basis, on the status of ICANN's key organizational activities, including WHOIS improvements.

•[Organizational Effectiveness Committee](#) created by the Board July 28, 2015 to be responsible for review and oversight of policies relating to ICANN's ongoing organizational review process mandated by Article IV, Section 4 of ICANN's Bylaws.

Implementation Notes

This recommendation is complete.