

## Review and draft recommendations regarding SOAC transparency

Drafted by Steve DelBianco, 25-Jan-2017

The new Bylaws tasked us to:

“review and develop ... recommendations on SO/AC accountability, including but not limited to improved processes for accountability, **transparency**, and participation that are helpful to prevent capture”

We asked each SO/AC (and subgroups):

“What are the published policies and procedures by which your AC/SO is accountable to the designated community that you serve? Specifically, **transparency mechanisms for your AC/SO deliberations, decisions and elections.** “

**Review:** A summary of responses and resources provided on Transparency, supplemented by independent research by the SO/AC Accountability working group:

ALAC: [expecting responses by 1-Feb]

- Members are listed at <https://atlarge.icann.org/alses>

ASO/NRO:

- Members of the regional numbers community are listed at <https://www.nro.net/about-the-nro/regional-internet-registries>
- NRO officers are listed on ASO website
- ASO sessions at ICANN meetings are open to anyone.
- ASO provides glossary for acronyms and an FAQ page.
- ASO publishes minutes of NRO meetings.
- ASO email archives are published for anyone to see.

ccNSO:

- ccNSO Guidelines are published at <https://ccnso.icann.org/about/guidelines.htm>
- Allows non-member ccTLDs to be present at ccNSO meetings.
- All ccNSO Council decisions are immediately published on ccNSO website and wiki.
- All documents and materials are published on the wiki at least a week before ccNSO Council meetings.
- ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee is reviewing current practices and documentation and may recommend updates and/or new guidelines.

GAC:

- GAC Operating Principles are published at <https://gacweb.icann.org/display/gacweb/GAC+Operating+Principles>
- Materials on GAC membership, meetings, key topics, correspondence and meeting notes are published on the GAC website.
- Correspondence between the GAC and the ICANN Board is published on the GAC website.
- All GAC face-to-face meetings are open and anyone can monitor real-time or through recordings and transcripts.
- GAC Communiqué and meeting minutes are published in the six UN languages.

#### GNSO:

- Operating procedures are published at <https://gns0.icann.org/en/council/op-procedures-01sep16-en.pdf>
- Anyone can monitor Council meetings via audio. Meeting recordings, transcript, and minutes are published.
- The GNSO Council email list is archived and published for public view.
- GNSO Working Group meeting recording and transcripts are published on Working Group wiki.
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- Draft reports of GNSO Working Groups are published on Working Group wiki.

#### GNSO-BC (Business Constituency):

- The BC Charter is published at <http://www.bizconst.org/charter>
- BC members are listed at <http://www.bizconst.org/bc-membership-list>
- All BC filed comments and ICANN correspondence are published on the BC website.
- At ICANN meetings, the BC holds some closed sessions and at least one open session.
- BC members can monitor BC meetings via adobe and/or audio. Meeting recordings, transcript, and minutes are published to member email list.
- BC members all have access to a private email archive.
- Open email communications are published at <https://forum.icann.org/lists/bc-gns0/>

#### GNSO-IPC (Intellectual Property Constituency):

- Bylaws are published at <http://www.ipconstituency.org/bylaws>
- Members are listed at <http://www.ipconstituency.org/current-membership>
- Officers are listed at <http://www.ipconstituency.org/officers>
- Filed comments are published at <http://www.ipconstituency.org/public-comments>
- Archived emails are available at <http://mm.icann.org/pipermail/ipc-gns0/>
- Meeting minutes are published at <http://www.ipconstituency.org/meeting-minutes>

#### GNSO-ISPCP (Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers):

- ISPCP Charter is published at <https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=27854098>
- ISPCP Operating Procedures are published.
- Officers are listed at <https://gns0.icann.org/en/about/stakeholders-constituencies/csg/isp>
- Comments filed prior to 2014 are published at <https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=27853808>

#### GNSO-NCUC (Non-Commercial Users Constituency):

- Bylaws published at <http://www.ncuc.org/governance/bylaws/bylaws-revision-2016/differential-document/>
- Organizational Members are listed at <http://www.ncuc.org/about/members/>
- Executive Committee is listed at <http://www.ncuc.org/governance/executive-committee/>

- Executive Committee meeting minute are published at <http://www.ncuc.org/governance/executive-committee/>
- Email archives are published at <http://lists.ncuc.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo>
- Statements and letters are published at <http://www.ncuc.org/policy/statements/>

RSSAC:

SSAC:

- Charter is published at <https://www.icann.org/groups/ssac/charter>
- Operational Procedures published at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/operational-procedures-20jun16-en.pdf>
- Member bios and SOIs are listed at <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/ssac-biographies-2016-12-15-en>
- Officer (chair) is named at <https://www.icann.org/groups/ssac>
- Reports and Advice published at <https://www.icann.org/groups/ssac/documents>
- Correspondence is published at <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/ssac-correspondence-2016-01-08-en>

Note that **transparency** is part of the structural review of the ALAC, ASO, ccNSO, GNSO, RSSAC, and SSAC, to be conducted at direction of the ICANN board every 3 years. ICANN Bylaws Section 4.4 requires the Board to cause an independent, periodic review (every 5 years) of each SO/AC, except that the GAC “shall provide its own review mechanisms”.

#### **Draft Recommendations regarding SO/AC transparency:**

Our review leads us to recommend that each SO/AC and subgroup consider adopting the following “best practices” regarding transparency mechanisms:

[list of Generalized practices]

- Charter and operating guidelines should be published on a public web page and updated whenever changes are made.
- Members of the SO/AC or subgroup should be listed on a public web page.
- Officers of the SO/AC or subgroup should be listed on a public web page.
- During each ICANN meeting, at least one session should be open to public observation.
- Minutes for all membership meetings should be published.
- Filed comments and correspondence with ICANN should be published for anyone to see