

RECOMMENDATIONS 33: INCREASE THE GEOGRAPHIC, GENDER, AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY OF ITS PARTICIPANTS

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Part One – Which ICANN Objective does this meet

1.1 Further globalize and regionalize ICANN functions. See Strategic Plan, page 19 at: <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/strategic-plan-2016-2020-10oct14-en.pdf>.

Alignment with Strategic Objectives

Goal

Bring ICANN to the world by creating a balanced and proactive approach to regional engagement with stakeholders.

Project/Recommendation

Recommendation 33: That Stakeholder Groups, Constituencies, and the 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.

SCOPE DESCRIPTION

Scope Statement

1. Staff will review Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies procedures to determine how these aim to increase the geographic, gender and cultural diversity of its participants in selecting candidates for the appointment to the GNSO Council.
2. The GNSO Review Working Group to determine whether the existing Stakeholder Group and Constituency procedures are sufficient to complete implementation of this recommendation, or whether further steps need to be taken to meet the intent of the recommendation.

Out of Scope

The above scope is sufficiently clear.

Assumptions

That the recommendations will require changes to the GNSO Operating Procedures.

Deliverables

Possible recommendations for changes to Stakeholder Group's and Constituency's procedures.

OPTION ANALYSIS

None were considered or were necessary to be considered.

SOLUTION

1. Staff conducted a review of Stakeholder Group and Constituency procedures relating to diversity:

Commercial Stakeholder Group Charter: Section 4.2 CSG Functions, 4.2.1 states, "Ensure that the Recognized Constituencies adopt internal procedures in selecting six (6) GNSO Council representatives such that no more than 3 of the 6 may be domiciled in the same "Geographic Region" (as defined in the ICANN bylaws). See: <https://gnso.icann.org/en/improvements/csg-charter-01nov10-en.pdf>.

Business Constituency Charter: Section 5.1 Elections states, "If at the close of nominations, it would result in all Executive Committee except Council representatives, or all Council representatives, being from the same region, the nomination period may be extended to improve geographic diversity." And 5.5 states, "To ensure

geographical diversity the Executive Committee may impose elimination rules based on ICANN geographical regions. Such rules will be made known before the start of voting.” See: <http://www.bizconst.org/charter>.

Intellectual Property Constituency Bylaws: “(C) Geographic Diversity The GNSO Council representatives must be citizens of countries that are in different geographic regions as defined by Article VI (5) of the ICANN bylaws.” See: <http://www.ipconstituency.org/bylaws>.

Internet Service Provider and Connectivity Provider Constituency Charter: 2.4.2 Election of gNSO Council Members: “The ISPCP Committee of the Whole shall elect, on a schedule determined by the Stakeholders’ Group Bylaws, a delegate to serve on the gNSO Council who represents the interests and views of the ISPCP constituency.” See: <https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=27854098>.

Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group Charter: 3.0 NCSG GNSO Council Representation, 3.1 NCSG Allocation. “The NCSG is assigned six (6) GNSO Council seats through the ICANN Bylaws. All NCSG GNSO Council representatives will be directly voted on by the full membership of the NCSG using weighted voting as defined in Section 4. To the maximum extent possible, no more than two (2) NCSG GNSO Council Representatives can be declared resident of the same geographic region as defined by ICANN. Reasonable efforts should be taken to recruit nominees so that all geographical regions may be represented by the NCSG GNSO Council Representatives. Reasonable efforts should also be taken to ensure gender balance and in no circumstance should there be fewer than 2 members of any gender.” See: <https://gns0.icann.org/en/improvements/ncsg-charter-05may11-en.pdf>.

Non-Commercial Users Constituency: Unable to identify diversity requirements. Staff will contact the NCUC Secretariat for additional references. See: <http://www.ncuc.org/governance/>.

Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns: Membership Committee Section 4.1.3.5 “Determine the ICANN geographical Region(s) represented by each Member. This determination will be made based on citizenship, residence, duration of residency or experience within a Region, depth of involvement in Internet matters in the Region, and other criteria as contained in the ICANN Bylaws or approved by the ICANN Board;” and 5.0 Membership: “5.1.1.2 Represent geographically diverse organizations and communities;” and 5.4 Recruitment and Outreach: “5.4.3.4 The NPOC shall consider hosting informational events and meetings in the five ICANN regions with particular emphasis on outreach in developing countries and populations under-represented in the ICANN community;” and 7.0 GNSO Council Representatives: 7.2 Regional Representation: “The NPOC shall seek to recruit and elect CRs from a variety of global Regions. Determination of which Region(s) are represented by CRs is made by the Membership Committee Chair according to the criteria set forth in Section 2.2 and any geographic diversity needs or requirements communicated by the NCSG.” See: <https://community.icann.org/display/NPOCC/Charter>.

Registrar Stakeholder Group Charter: Section 4.3.4 states, “Each of the GNSO Council Representatives should be from separate geographic region in accordance with ICANN's Bylaws.” See: <https://gns0.icann.org/en/improvements/rsg-approved-charter-16oct14-en.pdf>.

Registries Stakeholder Group Charter: VIII Elections, B Officers, “Officers Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the voting procedures described in Article X below and in compliance with applicable provisions of the ICANN Bylaws then in effect, if any, including those relating to geographic diversity and eligibility. Officer terms are covered in Section IV.” And C RySG Representatives to the GNSO Council “Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the voting procedures described in Article X below and in compliance with all applicable provisions of the ICANN Bylaws then in effect, including those relating to

geographic diversity and eligibility. In order to promote broad representational diversity in accordance with principles contained in the ICANN Bylaws, no more than one (1) of the elected RySG Representatives may come from the same geographic region as defined in the ICANN Bylaws.” See: <https://gns0.icann.org/en/meetings/rysg-charter-15may16-en.pdf>.

2. Based on the initial review, Staff notes that there appears to be incomplete and/or uneven implementation of this goal, “aim to increase the geographic, gender and cultural diversity of its participants, as defined in ICANN Core Value 4.”

3. The Working Group will consider whether additional guidance or requirements need to be provided to the Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies with respect to increasing the geographic, gender, and cultural diversity of its participants.”

KEY DEPENDENCIES

Availability of Stakeholder Group and Constituency procedures.

RISK IDENTIFICATION

None identified.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

It is not clear to staff whether a KPI applies in the implementation of these recommendations.

NECESSARY TO PROCEED

Next Phase Activities/Resources

None.

REVIEWERS

Name	Title	Date Sent
GNSO Review Working Group		

APPROVERS

Name	Title	Approval Status	Date
GNSO Review Working Group			
GNSO Council			

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Version	Description	Author
10 May 2017	V1	Original draft charter.	Julie Hedlund, Policy Director

Attachments, as applicable:

- None