

The background of the image is a photograph of a city at dusk. On the left, several tall, modern skyscrapers with glass facades are illuminated. In the center, there is a large, ornate fountain structure. On the right, a large, illuminated archway with a dome on top is visible. The foreground is filled with colorful flower beds in shades of red, pink, and white, with a paved walkway leading through them. The sky is a mix of orange and purple.

**ICANN**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL**

**60**

**ABU DHABI**

28 October–3 November 2017

# Next-Generation gTLD Registration Directory Service (RDS) to replace WHOIS PDP WG

Update to GNSO

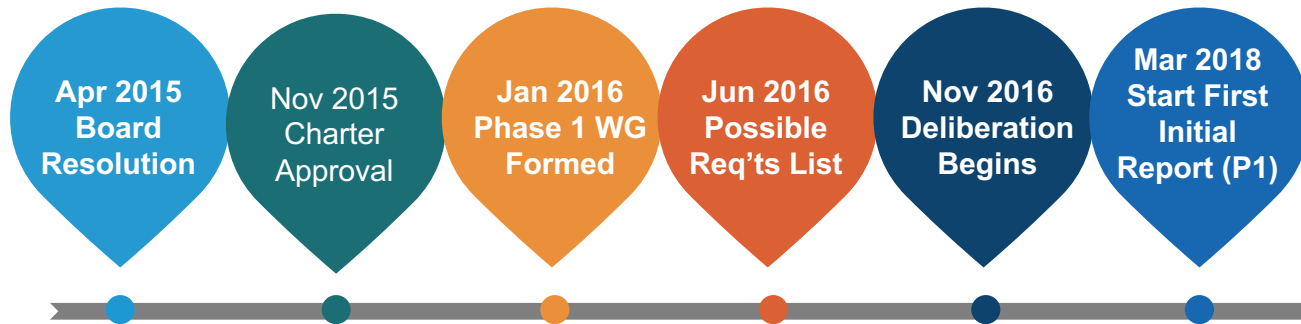
Chuck Gomes

ICANN 60

29 October 2017



# RDS PDP: Project Timeline & Major Milestones



## Next Steps

- Finish deliberating on charter questions 1-5
- Answer Foundational Question
- First Initial Report
- Modify Phase 1 Work Plan
- Deliberate on charter questions 6-11
- Second Initial Report
- Final Report for Phase 1

## If a next-gen RDS is needed:

- Phase 2 (Policy Development)
- Phase 3 (Implementation and Coexistence Guidance)

## WHAT THIS PROJECT IS ABOUT

In April 2015, the ICANN Board reaffirmed “its request for a Board-initiated GNSO policy development process to define the purpose of collecting, maintaining and providing access to generic top-level domain (gTLD) registration data, and consider safeguards for protecting data, using the recommendations in the Expert Working Group (EWG) Final Report as an input to, and, if appropriate, as the foundation for a new gTLD policy.”

Following publication of the PDP Final Issue Report, the GNSO Council adopted the charter for the PDP WG, which commenced its deliberations at the end of January 2016. During the **first phase its work**, the WG has been tasked with providing recommendations on the following two questions:

- 1) **What are the fundamental requirements for gTLD registration data?**
- 2) **Is a new policy framework and next-generation registration directory services (RDS) needed to address these requirements?**

# What are the current issues under discussion?

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- ⦿ Phase 1 deliberation on Fundamental Requirements for 4 charter questions, expanding beyond an agreed “Minimum Public Data Set”
  - Who should have access to gTLD registration data and for what purposes?
  - What steps should be taken to control access to that data?
  - What data should be collected, stored, and disclosed?
  - What steps are needed to protect data and privacy?
  
- ⦿ 45 initial points of rough consensus are reflected in our Phase 1 Working Documents: <https://community.icann.org/x/p4xlAw>
  
- ⦿ To overcome fundamental disagreements which have impeded progress, the WG obtained input of data protection laws:
  - <https://gns0.icann.org/en/drafts/wsgr-icann-memorandum-25sep17-en.pdf>
  - <ICANN58-DataProtectionExpert-Responses-7April2017-plus-Intro.pdf>
  
- ⦿ When these answers did not trigger productive dialog, we formed small representative drafting teams to share experiences, ask questions, and build on that communication to define RDS purposes

# What are the current challenges?

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- Current challenges include burnout, complexity, duration, and conflicting views – especially re: impact of GDPR
  - When we narrowed the focus of initial deliberation to “thin data” we had success in defining a “Minimum Public Data Set” to be accessible for all gTLDs, without authentication
  - When we expanded our focus to other data elements (especially contact data), progress was impeded by lack of agreement on purposes for data
  - We have thus returned our attention to purposes, guided by answers from privacy experts and independent legal analysis
- Unfortunately, legal analysis - and ICANN’s parallel efforts on WHOIS compliance with GDPR – have raised even more questions
- Effective communication amongst WG members remains very difficult, and without that communication we cannot reach consensus

# How can the GNSO Council & community help?

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- WG members have deeply held positions, leading to revisiting the same points repeatedly without willingness to consider compromise
  - GNSO SGs/Cs and ACs/SOs can assist by encouraging their members who participate in this PDP to participate regularly and constructively in calls, polls, and email
- WG email has at times become offensive to some, tense and unconstructive, too voluminous to follow
  - GNSO SGs/Cs and ACs/SOs can assist by encouraging their members who participate in this PDP to focus on listening, considering others' positions, and working together to seek common ground through possible compromises
- GNSO SGs/Cs and ACs/SOs can also assist by stressing the importance to all of finding some way to reach consensus soon

# Sessions at ICANN60 and Further Information

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- RDS PDP WG sessions at ICANN60:  
[WG F2F Meeting](#) – Saturday 28 October (08.30-12.00)  
[WG F2F Meeting](#) - Wednesday 1 November (16.00-18.30)
- Background information:  
Background Docs: <https://community.icann.org/x/QlxlAw>  
Phase 1 Docs: <https://community.icann.org/x/p4xlAw>
- ICANN60 Policy Briefing Paper:  
[GNSO Policy Briefing ICANN60 Edition](#)
- Working Group Charter:  
<https://community.icann.org/x/E4xlAw>
- Working Group online wiki space (with meeting transcripts, call recordings, draft documents and background materials):  
<https://community.icann.org/x/rjJ-Ag>