Recommendation: Repeat data-gathering efforts that compare rates of abuse in domains operating under new Registry Agreement and Registrar Agreements to legacy gTLDs as future review teams deem necessary. Although we recommend a periodic data-gathering exercise, we anticipate that these studies will change over time as a result of input from the community and future review teams.

Rationale/related findings: In order to better measure new gTLDs' ability to mitigate abusive activity, data related to abuse rates in new gTLDs should be gathered and analyzed on a regular basis. The data should be reviewed by both the ICANN organization and be made available to policymaking bodies and future review teams. The CCT Review Team has commissioned a study on this topic to serve as a baseline for future review teams and will report findings based on this study in our final report. This baseline will serve as a basis to compare future rates of abuse using the same methodology, which will work to support future hypothesis formulation and testing on potential causal factors that explain the variation in rates of abuse in TLDs.**To:** ICANN organization

Prerequisite or Priority Level: High

Consensus within team: Yes

Details: (none)

Success Measures: (none)

Recommendation: Repeat and refine the DNS Abuse Study to determine whether the presence of additional registration restrictions correlate to a decrease in abuse in new gTLDs, and as compared to new gTLDs that lack registration restrictions, and as compared to legacy gTLDs.

Rationale/related findings: The Nielsen surveys indicated a positive relationship between registration restrictions and trustworthiness of a domain. However, in addition to benefits, registration restrictions may also impact competition. More information is needed to assess whether this safeguard has met its intended goal in a manner that balances the benefits to the public in terms of trustworthiness and competition.

To: ICANN organization, New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group, and future CCT Review Teams

Prerequisite or Priority Level: High

Consensus within team: Yes

Details: (none)

Success Measures: (none)

Recommendation: Further study the relationship between specific registry operators, registrars and DNS abuse by commissioning ongoing data collection, including but not limited to, ICANN Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR) initiatives. For transparency purposes, this information should be regularly published in order to be able to identify registries and registrars that need to come under greater scrutiny and higher priority by ICANN Compliance. Upon identifying abuse phenomena, ICANN should put in place an action plan to respond to such studies, remediate problems identified, and define future ongoing data collection.

Rationale/related findings: The DNS Abuse Study commissioned by the CCT-RT identified extremely high rates of abuse associated with specific registries and registrars as well as registration features, such as mass registrations, which appear to enable abuse. Moreover, the Study concluded that registration restrictions correlate with abuse, which means that there are many factors for which to account in order to extrapolate cross-TLD abuse trends for specific registry operators and registrars. The DNS Abuse Study has highlighted certain behaviors that are diametrically opposed to encouraging consumer trust in the DNS. Certain registries and registrars appear to either positively encourage or at the very least willfully ignore DNS abuse. Such behavior needs to be identified rapidly and action must be taken by ICANN compliance as deemed necessary.

To: The ICANN Board, the Registry Stakeholders Group, the Registrar Stakeholders Group, the Generic Names Supporting Organization and the Subsequent Procedures PDP WG, SSR2 Review Team.

Prerequisite or Priority Level: High

Consensus within team: Yes

Details: The additional studies need to be of an ongoing nature, collecting relevant data concerning DNS abuse at both the registrar and registry level. The data should be regularly published, thereby enabling the community and ICANN compliance in particular to identify registries and registrars that need to come under greater compliance scrutiny and thereby have such behavior eradicated.

Success Measures: (none)