

ICANN 33



# **GNSO IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM BACKGROUND & SUMMARY**

November 2008

*Presenter: Denise Michel, VP Policy Development*

# Background: Reviews & Key Objectives

- ❖ Like all ICANN structures, the GNSO is subject to periodic independent review every three years
- ❖ 2004: GNSO self-review & Patrick Sharry recommendations
- ❖ 2005-2006: Independent Review by London School of Econ (LSE)
- ❖ 2007: Board Governance Committee Working Group (BGC WG)
- ❖ Key BGC objectives:
  - Maximizing stakeholders participation;
  - Ensuring recommendations can be developed on gTLD consensus policies for Board review;
  - Consensus policies clearly defined;
  - Policy development based on thoroughly researched, well-scoped objectives and operated in a predictable manner to ensure effective implementation; and
  - Improving communications and administrative support for GNSO objectives.



# 2008 Developments

- ❖ Feb: In New Delhi, ICANN Board accepted BGC WG GNSO Improvements Report
- ❖ Mar/Apr: Public Comment Forum on BGC WG Recommendations
  - Staff began implementation planning
  - GNSO Implementation Planning Team (IPT) formed
- ❖ May: Top Level Plan (now Implementation Plan) drafted by IPT
- ❖ Jun: ICANN Board approved BGC WG recommendations except Council structure
  - Formed Working Group on GNSO Council Restructure (WG-GCR)
- ❖ Jul: WG-GCR reported to ICANN Board
- ❖ Aug-Sep: Board decided on Council structure
- ❖ Sep: GNSO Council approved IPT revised plan and structure
  - Policy Process Steering Committee (PPSC)
  - Operations Steering Committee (OSC)
- ❖ Nov: Steering Committees scheduled to begin deliberations



# GNSO: Five Main Areas of Improvement

*Based on input from the independent reviews, a Working Group of the ICANN Board Governance Committee (BGC-WG) identified these areas for improvement.*



# BGC WG Recommended Improvements

## Adopt a Working Group Model

Participation: open, broad, balanced, knowledgeable

Strong, neutral, experienced, and respected Chair

Goal: open, honest, respectful consensus

Statement of interest disclosures

Staff support, infrastructure, and funding

Work Team: establish rules, procedures, and norms



# BGCWG Recommended Improvements

## Revise the PDP Process

Align with contractual requirements and bylaws

Periodic Council self-review, assessment, and metrics

Align with ICANN strategic operations objectives

Council: manager of PDP process vs. legislative body

Preparation: scoping, discussion, research, scheduling

PDP Team: establish model charter, rules, & procedures



# BGCWG Recommended Improvements

## GNSO Council Restructure

Focus: manage, monitor, and guide Working Groups

Term limits for Council members

Benchmark PDP and analyze trends in gTLD arena

Reorganize to be representative, agile, and collegial

Organization: four (4) broad Stakeholder Groups

Statements and Declarations of Interest



# BGCWG Recommended Improvements

## Enhance Constituencies

All constituencies operate in open, transparent manner

Processes are standardized, accessible, and democratic

Participation is global and supports multiple languages

Centralized directory: up-to-date and publicly accessible

Staff Support "Toolkit": outreach, services, admin, et al.

Constituency Ops Team: standards, rules, & procedures





# BGCWG Recommended Improvements

## Coordinate with ICANN Structures

Arrange meetings between SOs and ACs

Communication with GAC and ALAC bodies

Improve Board member awareness of GNSO issues

Coordinate policy activities across ICANN bodies

Conf calls with Chairs of SOs, ACs, Board, and CEO

Communications Work Team: establish methods, tools



# GNSO Council Restructure Working Group

## WG-GCR Recommendations (July 2008)

**Bicameral Voting**  
[Two Houses]  
Contracted Parties  
&  
Non-Contracted Parties  
(see following slide)

**1 Council Level Non-Voting NCA & 1 Voting NCA in each House**

**GNSO Council Chair Elected by 60% of Both Houses**

**Voting Thresholds**  
(see following slide)

**Each Voting House Elects a Board Seat**  
( #13 & #14)

**Broad Representation in Stakeholder Groups**



*Board Approved*



*Under Board Review*

# New GNSO Council Organization: June 2009



Legend: {} Voting; () Non-Voting

# GNSO Council Voting Thresholds

- A** Create an Issues Report: Either greater than 25% vote of both houses or simple majority of one house
- B** Initiate a PDP within Scope: Greater than 33% vote of both houses or greater than 66% vote of one house
- C** Initiate a PDP not within Scope: Greater than 75% vote of one house and a simple majority of the other
- D** Approval of a PDP w/o Super-Majority: Simple majority of both houses, but requires at least one rep of at least 3 of 4 stakeholder groups
- E** Super-Majority Approval of a PDP: Greater than 75% majority in one house and simple majority in the other
- F** Removal of Nominating Committee Appointees for Cause: Greater than 75% vote of both houses  
*(Note: subject to ICANN Board Approval)*
- G** All other GNSO Business (other than Board elections): Simple majority of both voting houses



# GNSO Implem Planning Team (IPT) Structure

Board & GNSO Council

Policy Process  
Steering Committee  
(PPSC)

Operations  
Steering Committee  
(OSC)

PDP  
Work Team

Working Group  
Work Team

GNSO  
Operations  
Work Team

Constituency  
Operations  
Work Team

Communi-  
cations  
Work Team



*Note: Work Teams are prospective pending Steering Committee approval and charters.*

# Progress & Coming Attractions

## New PDP & WG Model

- Staff conducting research to support PDP and WG Work Teams
- Draft charters being developed after Cairo
- Final constructs to be approved by PPSC, Council, & Board

## GNSO Council Restructure

- GNSO Implem Plan Team (IPT) Structure approved
- Council Term Limits for public comment
- Individual Internet User Involvement circulated for public comment
- Council Restructure Phase I implem plan due Dec Board meeting
- Existing constituencies submit confirmations to Board Feb 2009
- Stakeholder Group Petition/Charter plans due Apr 2009
- New GNSO Council seated Jun 2009



# Progress & Coming Attractions (Cont'd)...

## Enhance Constituencies

- “Notice of Intent to Form New Constituency” acknowledged by Board 30 Sep 2008
- “New Constituency Petition/Charter” being submitted to Board 7 Nov 2008
- Constituency survey instrument distributed & available for community input: Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> – Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> (30 days)
- Survey data published early Jan 2009
- Input to Constituency Operations Work Team

## GNSO Communications

- Developing draft GNSO guidelines for language translation and interpretation
- Providing dedicated Staff person
- Working with ICANN Sr. Architect on requirements for new GNSO web site
- Planned “beta” test site for focus group testing late Dec 2008



# GNSO Constituency Member Survey

**Purpose:** Collect information on how ICANN can better support GNSO Constituencies

**Survey Topics:** Admin/Services, Training Needs, & Operations

**Survey Period:** November 3<sup>rd</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008

**Results:** Scheduled for Publication in early January 2009

**Survey Link:** <https://www.bigpulse.com/m2597/intro>

**Security:** Need special access PIN (emailed to each Constituency 10-28-08)





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THANK YOU

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Obrigado!



Gracias

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Merci

Teşekkürler

Köszönettel



Vielen Dank

Questions/Comments  
Welcome:  
***policy-staff@icann.org***

Also, please visit our new GNSO Improvements Web Portal:

<http://gnso.icann.org/improvements>

