GNSO Activity Update for ccNSO Council meeting
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Below is selected discussion points from within the GNSO. The GNSO council will conduct their Meeting shortly after the ccNSO meeting on 11 December. This report was written before the Council meeting. More detail available upon request.

New gTLD future rounds
A discussion group has developed some points where policy clarification is needed (or possibly new policy) with respect to future rounds of new gTLD applications. The points were acknowledged by the Board who also provided some input to the discussion (some of which are already in progress): community considerations, special case considerations, rights protections at second level, string similarity, registry agreement terms, public interest guidance, applicant support, name collision and IGO/INGO protections.

GNSO comments to Board WG report on Nominating committee
The Council will provide comments to the public comment on Nominating Committee recommendations from the Board working group. If implemented the recommendations would see among other changes a reduction in the number of appointees from GNSO. Points currently under discussion relate to diversity, membership numbers, delegation voting procedures, the ongoing evolution of the NomComm and the terms of NomComm appointees. These points are still under discussion.

CWG on ICANN Accountability
After GNSO adoption of the charter there has been no substantial GNSO discussion on this topic. Thomas Rickert (GNSO co-chair to the group) is expected to provide an update to the Council at their meeting on 11 December.

IDN Implementation Guidelines
During ICANN50, the GNSO met with the Board Variant Working Group and suggested to update the IDN Implementation Guidelines (last revision was 2011). The guidelines are for registry operators to implement IDNs at the second level and designed to minimise risk of cybersquatting and consumer confusion. Input from the GNSO is expected in the form of an initial list of issues and there is a deadline to this of 30 January 2015.

Name Collision work
In July 2014, the New gTLD Program Committee directed staff to work with the GNSO to consider whether policy work on developing a long-term plan (as opposed to a temporary framework currently in place) to manage gTLD name collision issues should be undertaken. A paper was discussed among GNSO groups and discussions are ongoing (also at their 11 December meeting) with respect to where policy work may be required. Key points relate to; measures to manage name collisions for future rounds of new gTLDs, additional measures to for 2012 round of new gTLDs beyond 2 year anniversary as well as gTLDs delegated prior to 2012, safeguards for domain drop catching and potential for collaboration with SSAC regarding policy work.

Responding to GAC Communique's
The GNSO council are discussing ways in which GAC communique's can be channelled through the ICANN to the GNSO Council where they can be analysed for possible policy implications. A lightweight framework is expected in which the Council could essentially filter down GAC communique's to relevant groups within the GNSO where they can identify where existing policy is affected or new policy is required. Details of the flow of work are still being discussed.

ICANN Meeting Strategy Group Implementation
The Board recently accepted the proposals from the meeting strategy group which means changes to the structure of ICANN meetings (see more). There was no strong reaction from GNSO except to mention that their working sessions are outside the 'official' meeting schedule of an ICANN meeting