Notes IDN PDP Working Group 2 Telephone Conference
12 May 2011

Attendees:

Demi Getschko, .br
Hiro Hotta, .jp (Chair)
Paulos Nyirenda, .mw

Staff:

Bart Boswinkel
Kristina Nordström
Gabriella Schittek

Apologies:

Giovanni Seppia, .eu
Siavash Shahshahani, .ir

1. Agenda Approval

- No comments were noted.

2. Action Points from Previous Meeting

- The only action (Bart to send out an updated version of the Discussion paper, including the voting mechanism issue) had been completed.

3. Discussion on the "One Vote Per Territory" Issue

- Bart Boswinkel explained that the revisions of the discussion paper now include a separation of voting policy and voting mechanism.

  It furthermore includes the inclusion of a transitional constituency, although the Working Group members thought the idea was infeasible.

  It was felt that including the latter might be confusing for the community and that proposing such an option would be outside the scope of the Working Group. It was therefore suggested that this entry should be deleted.

- The various voting mechanisms were then discussed.

  It was noted that if the principle 'one vote per member' will be followed, then no changes are needed.

  However, if the principle 'one vote per territory' is implemented, then different mechanisms need to be considered:

  One representative per territory could be appointed by the members themselves to represent their position. The main advantage of such a solution is that the voting becomes an internal matter. However, there are several issues which need to be considered: the time it will take to appoint a representative of the territory (which could mean that no vote can be gained from the territory until this issue is resolved), whether the voting should take

place at the same time as the general vote (which puts an extra burden on the voting manager); or whether a vote should be organised within the region itself first (which would prolong the voting period). Furthermore, if there are only two managers within a region, a vote could end up in a draw. In addition, no real debate will be possible within the territory, as the IDN ccTLDs will always dominate any debate.

It was suggested to solve the first matter (time of appointing a representative) by treating the current member as the representative, until a different representative is appointed.

Fractional voting was also considered, however, it was pointed out that the vote of a manager in territories with IDN operators would count less than a vote of ccTLDs with no IDN operators. Furthermore, if there are many managers in a country, an individual ccTLD would have no chance to put any weight to its position. Also, the end-results could look very strange (such as "1/6th" in favour).

- It was noted that the membership should be informed that whilst it is important to define the principles, in practice, the voting mechanism is hardly used within the ccNSO. It is only relevant when it comes to Board and Council elections, which happens once a year. It will also have an impact on PDPs, which are reliant on membership votes – however they are extremely rare.

- Based on the discussions, the document will be updated and sent to the email list prior to the next telephone conference.

- Working group members are invited to comment on-line on the next version of the document.

4. Next Meetings

- The next telephone conference will take place on 2 June 2011. Before this meeting, a revised version of the discussion document will be posted for consideration of the working group members.

  It was felt that it was urgent that Siavash Shahshahani should be present at the call to elaborate his views.

- During the IDN Session at the ccNSO members meeting in Singapore, the IDN PDP Working Group 2 will present the various arguments in the report and will seek guidance by the membership. In order to stimulate a discussion, Demi Getschko and Siavash Shahshahani will be asked to take the floor to explain their positions.

- A follow-up Working Group face-to-face meeting will then take place on Thursday, 23 June 2011.

5. AOB

- No other issues were raised.