

Motion – Withdrawal of the GNSO as a Chartering Organization for the Cross Community Working Group to discuss Internet governance (CWG-IG) issues affecting ICANN

Whereas,

1. The GNSO Council adopted the charter for a Cross Community Working Group to discuss Internet governance (CWG-IG) issues affecting ICANN and make recommendations to the chartering organization on these issues on 15 October 2014 and as such became a Chartering Organization.
2. The Charter foresees that ‘At each ICANN Annual General Meeting, starting 2014, the Charter and deliverables of the WG shall be reviewed by the participating SO’s and AC’s to determine whether the WG should continue, or, close and be dissolved. Consistent with ICANN community practices, the WG will continue if at least two of the participating SO’s or AC’s extend the Charter of the WG and notify the other participating SO’s and AC’s accordingly one month after the annual review date’.
3. The CWG-IG provided its first written status update on 23 June 2016 (see <https://gnso.icann.org/en/drafts/ccwg-internet-governance-23jun16-en.pdf>).
4. The GNSO Council recently adopted the “Uniform Framework of Principles and Recommendations for Cross Community Working Groups” which details the lifecycle of a CCWG which includes initiation, formation, operation, decision-making, adoption of Final Report by Chartering Organizations and Closure of CCWG, and, post-closure of CCWG.
5. The GNSO Council has observed that the CWG-IG does not follow this lifecycle nor has it established and adopted an initial work plan and associated schedule as foreseen in its charter.
6. The GNSO Council recognizes the importance of a continued dialogue and discussion in relation to the topic of Internet Governance within an ICANN context.
7. Withdrawal of the GNSO Council as a Chartering Organization does not prevent the CWG-IG to continue in its current format, if other ICANN SO/ACs continue their support as a Chartering Organization, or to continue in a different format such as a discussion group.

Resolved,

1. The GNSO Council will not continue as a Chartering Organization for the CWG-IG and hereby withdraws itself as one of the Chartering Organizations.
2. The GNSO Secretariat will communicate this decision to the CWG-IG Chairs as well as the other Chartering Organizations.