

Notes SOP Working Group Telephone Conference 16 February 2011

Attendees:

Fahd Batayneh, .jo
Jessica Calvo, .cr
Lesley Cowley, .uk
Atsushi Endo, .jp
Staffan Johnson, .se
Roelof Meijer, .nl (Chair)
Paulos Nyirenda, .mw
Pablo Rodriguez, .pr
Mathieu Weill, .fr

Staff:

Bart Boswinkel
Gabiella Schitteck

Apologies:

Sabine Dolderer, .de
Erick Iriarte, LACTLD
Debbie Monahan, .nz
Oscar Robles, .mx
Giovanni Seppia, .eu
Peter Van Roste, CENTR

1) Comments on the Fiscal Year 2011-2014 Strategic Plan

- Bart Boswinkel gave an update on the current work status of the group:
 - The group had agreed on submitting substantive comments on five areas in the Strategic Plan, which were of particular interest to the ccTLD managers. Only two submissions have been received so far. These were sent to the group prior to the call;
 - It was noted that two registries (.ca and .uk) had submitted own comments to the Strategic Plan;
 - Byron Holland had, in his capacity of former Working Group Chair, submitted a letter to Peter Dengate-Thrush and Rod Beckstrom on the 9 December 2010, noting the lack of process for the Strategic Plan. No reply has been received to date;
 - The ICANN Board has not taken any decision yet on the Strategic Plan, according to the Board minutes.
- Clarification was sought whether there is a revised timeframe for the Strategic Plan and if the Operational Plan also would be delayed.

However, Bart explained that except the extended Strategic Plan comment period to 25 January 2011, there was no other communication available on the subject from ICANN.

According to earlier information, the Operational Plan would be posted on the 17 February 2011, or the following days. It was therefore assumed that the Operational Plan would base on the current Strategic Plan FY 2011 – 2013, as no other plan had been adopted.

- The group agreed that, although it had already been raised at the Cartagena meeting, the Working Group should once again stress to relevant ICANN staff, the non-sense of the fact that the Operational Planning Process is starting before the Strategic Planning Process has ended.
- The Chair noted that the methods, which the Working Group uses to deliver input to the Strategic Plan, needs to be reviewed. Besides the fact that the time frame had been very short and that the SOP Working Group Chair had changed, several Working Group members that had signed up for submitting comments, had not done so, nor indicated that they would not do so. The Chair therefore welcomed a discussion in San Francisco on whether the group thought something would need to be changed in the process.
- Bart Boswinkel was assigned to edit the current two submissions, as well as adding the input from last year's submission on the three areas that had not been covered so far. In the introduction, he would highlight that the Working Group feels the process is flawed. This document would be posted on Friday, 18 February and unless anyone objects, submitted to ICANN on Monday 21 February on behalf of the Working Group. It would also be submitted to the ccTLD community, which would be invited to subscribe it.

2) Process regarding upcoming Fiscal Year 2011- 2012 Operational Plan and Budget

- The Chair reminded the group that the Operational Plan is supposed to be posted on the 17 February, or the following days. It will be open for comments until the 4 April 2011. He was therefore anticipating that the SOP Working Group members would discuss this during their face-to-face meeting in San Francisco, followed by a presentation by Akram Atallah and/or Juan Ojeda.

3) SOP activities during ICANN San Francisco meeting

- A Working Group face-to-face meeting is scheduled to be held on Sunday, 13 March at 13.00 – 15.00. It is followed by the Finance Working Group meeting.

It was suggested to make the Finance Working Group meeting start somewhat earlier, so that the two groups could overlap in time for the Operational Plan presentation by Akram Atallah/Juan Ojeda, as ICANN budget issues would probably also be raised.

Bart Boswinkel is to contact the Finance Working Group Chair Byron Holland for the arrangements of this.

- The face-to-face meeting should also be used to plan what should be presented during the SOP/Finance Working Group session during the ccNSO members meeting on Tuesday, 15 March 2011.
- Furthermore, the group needs to discuss how to divide work and to make submissions more efficient.

4) AOB

- The Chair noted that the SOP Working Group calls would be recorded and the recording posted online.