Introduction and Background

In March 2011 the charter of the ccNSO Framework of Interpretation Working Group (FOIWG) was adopted by the ccNSO Council. According to its charter the FOIWG is to develop and propose a "Framework of Interpretation" for the delegation and re-delegation of ccTLDs. This framework should provide a clear guide to IANA functions manager and the ICANN Board on interpretations of the policies and guidelines which are defined in the charter of the FOIWG as the following documents:

- RFC 1591
- GAC Principles 2005

The scope of the FOIWG also clearly specifies that:

- Any proposal to amend, update or change these policies and guidelines is outside the scope of the FOIWG.
- The IANA functions contract between the US Government and ICANN, including any contract implementation issues or procedures relating to it, are outside the scope of the FOIWG.

The FOIWG identified the following topics which will be considered individually and in the order presented:

- Obtaining and documenting consent for delegation and re-delegation requests
- Obtaining and documenting support for delegation and re-delegation requests from Significantly Interested Parties (sometimes referred to as Local Internet Community or LIC).
- Revocation and un-consented re-delegations
- Developing a comprehensive glossary of the terms used for the delegation and re-delegation of ccTLDs.
- Developing recommendations for IANA reports on delegation and re-delegation.

This report has been prepared to inform the community on the progress made since the ICANN Prague meeting (June 2012) on the topics identified.

Progress since Prague

On the topic of Obtaining and documenting consent: In March 2012 the chair of the ccNSO submitted the final report on obtaining and documenting consent for delegation and re-delegation to the ICANN Board of Directors for implementation.
At the Prague meeting the FOIWG agreed to complete its work on all substantive topics identified before submitting it's recommendations on the topics to the ccNSO and GAC to seek their endorsement. This will again include the recommendations on the topic of Obtaining and Documenting Consent. The ICANN Board of Directors will be informed accordingly.

On the topic of Obtaining and documenting support for delegation and re-delegation requests from Significantly Interested Parties: The FOIWG has concluded a public consultation on its Interim Report on obtaining and documenting support for delegation and re-delegation requests from Significantly Interested Parties (3 February 2012- 20 April 2012). One comment was submitted and analysed. In addition the FOIWG received input from the GAC. A response is under consideration by the WG.

The FOIWG is working on its Final Report on the topic of Obtaining and documenting support for delegation and re-delegation requests from Significantly Interested Parties. Once concluded, it will be published. The final report will be submitted to the ccNSO and GAC together with the recommendations on the other substantive topics.

On the topic of Revocation and un-consented re-delegations: The members of the FOIWG have made considerable progress on analysing the issues and developing draft recommendations pertaining to the revocation of a ccTLD delegation and un-consented re-delegation. The FOIWG will continue its discussions at its Toronto face to face meeting and anticipates it will publish its Interim Report on this topic before the Beijing ICANN meeting.

On the topic of IANA reports on delegation and re-delegations: The FOIWG will start its work on the terminology and recommendations for IANA reports on delegation and re-delegation once its Interim Report on the topic of Revocation and Un-consented re-delegations is complete.

The FOIWG met 6 times by telephone conference since its face-to-face ICANN Prague meeting.

Keith Davidson
Chair of the ccNSO FOIWG