GNSO Activity Update - Prepared by Patrick Myles for ccNSO Council Call 10 September 2013.

Note: some points are limited in information as this report was submitted before the GNSO council call in early September.

Overview of topics under discussion in the GNSO
- Policy and Implementation WG (see below)
- Planning for Buenos Aeries – Council vice chair is leading an effort on making the most out of face to face meetings – this includes aspects such as meeting with ccNSO (among others)
- Locking of Domain Name subject to UDRP proceedings (see below)
- Draft motion to approve Whois survey WG final report and recommendations
- Discussion of a PDP to develop policies for issues not dealt with in development of 2013 RAA
- GNSO Metrics and reporting WG (see below)
- GAC engagement and working with the BGRC committee – discussing activity to date to confirm course of action going forward.
- Standing Committee on Improvements (SCI) – Reviewing input received from Durban meeting and confirming a course of action.
- Review of the GNSO Council – council are discussing course of action of initiating a non-PDP WG to work on the issues (potentially a GNSO self review)

Below are further details on some of the points above.

Policy and Implementation WG
- This WG had its first teleconference on the 22 August.
- The WG has elected to go with two co-chairs J. Scott Evans (BC) and Chuck Gomes (RySG) as well as two vice chairs. Council to confirm appointment chairs on council call 5 September.
- It was noted that the WG is one of the larger GNSO working groups in recent times with 30 members.
- The WG is expected to finalise its work plan in late August and report back to GNSO.

Advisory Group for Digital Engagement Project - Call for Volunteers
Ad-hoc advisory group to advise the development team working on the Digital Engagement Project
Timeframe: Approximately 6 months (or the duration of the Digital Engagement Project). The first meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 28th.

Locking of a Domain Name subject to UDRP Proceedings PDP
Public comment period recently closed and GNSO are now reviewing the final report internally. Staff will need to carry out a further analysis of the recommendations in order to determine how these recommendations can be best implemented, either by modifying the UDRP, the UDRP rules or in the form of an advisory, or possibly a combination of all three. Following that, staff would be in a position to share a proposed implementation plan with the Implementation Review Team that the GNSO Council has decided to form

PDP review
Following the presentations and discussions on this topic in Durban, the GNSO circulated a paper on ‘opportunities for streamlining and improvements’ to the Policy Development Process. Several areas are pointed out in the document as suggestions to improve;
- Include a proposed charter as part of the issue report. Given increased timeline to the PDP from charter drafting teams the suggestion is to have staff include a proposed charter for the WG as part of the preliminary issue report.
- **Intensity of PDP WG meetings.** Suggestion is to shorten some of the WG timeline by putting some of the 1 hour meetings together (e.g., 2 hour meetings instead of 1).
- **Increased pool of PDP WG volunteers.** “many hands make light work. Council may look at ways to attract more people to the WGs.
- **Requirement of SG/C representatives.** Suggestion is to require all SG/C to designate a representative to the PDP WG responsible for information flows back and forth between council and the SG/C.
- **Improved Online tools/training.** Limited detail provider here other than to say there are ‘several activities being rolled out in the coming months’ which may have chance to relate to PDP efforts.
- **PDP WG Rapporteur.** The rapporteur would consult with WG members early on to develop a first skeleton with strawman recommendations which would then be basis from which to develop the initial or final report of the WG.
- **Professional moderation and involvement of experts.**
- **Organise workshops/discussions at the outset.** GNSO to consider using existing notes from GNSO PDP manual regarding scheduling workshops on substantive issues prior to initiation of PDP.
- **Better data and metrics.** The metrics and reporting effort recently started could help here.
- **Develop fast track process for policy “advice” or “guidance”.** This relates to the work of the Policy and Implementation WG.

**GNSO Metrics and Reporting WG**

Despite the unanimous support for this resolution, only six volunteers (3 GNSO, 3 ALAC) have signed up for this effort to date. GNSO is currently considering alternate possibilities as ways forward.