

GNSO Activity Update for ccNSO Council meeting (May 2014)

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Below is selected discussion points from within the GNSO. More detail available upon request.

Specification 13 of new gTLD agreement

Background: The NGPC approved an additional clause (specification 13) allowing a .brand registry operator to designate up to 3 exclusive registrars. The NGPC also asked the GNSO to comment on if this is inconsistent with GNSO policy (recommendation 19 on introduction of new gTLDs).

The GNSO responded (also by way of a motion) confirming that the use of up to 3 exclusive registrars is inconsistent with their policy (ie. There are no exceptions from requirements to treat registrars in a non-discriminatory fashion). The GNSO does not however object to the implementation of specification 13 citing a comment period to which no formal objections were made.

Draft charter for group to develop IANA stewardship role transfer process

The GNSO Council agreed to submit an early draft charter to the call for public input in order to commit to record both the early draft charter as a potential starting point and the intention to move forward with the bottom-up formation of a CWG in collaboration with others in the community.

Meeting Strategy Group – GNSO comments

The GNSO made some comments to the ICANN Meeting Strategy Group. Selected points below;

- GNSO shares concern by several GNSO SG/Cs that a meeting beyond 7 days is not feasible
- The proposed once a year focus on policy development is not considered sufficient.
- On cross community interaction, GNSO considers once a year SO/AC interactions may hamper progress – citing event driven activity such as NTIA statement.
- Suggestions to specific format elements of meetings (further detail avail on request).
- Concern on shortening the public forum – if split in two it might be difficult for communities to develop positions.
- GNSO strongly encourages hub cities to have priority over other candidate locations.

GNSO Review

The objective of the GNSO Review is to examine organizational effectiveness of the GNSO, including its structure components (GNSO Council/Working Groups/Stakeholder Groups/Constituencies). The review scheduled to begin around 1 July 2014 will be tightly scoped based on objective and quantifiable criteria provided to the independent examiner. There is a call for GNSO members to form the 'GNSO review working party' which will have several functions such as liaise between the GNSO and Structural Improvements Committee, input on review criteria, sounding board on conclusion assessments and co-ordinate with the GNSO community.

[More information](#)