

Final Report FOI WG

Introduction and Background

The Framework of Interpretation WG was established in March 2011. According to its charter the FOI WG is to develop and propose a "Framework of Interpretation" (FOI) for the existing policies and guidelines applicable to the delegation and re-delegation of ccTLDs.

After a long and intense consultation process of the FOI WG, community and others, the FOI WG finalized its recommendations during the London meeting (June 2014).

The chair of the FOI WG submitted the Final Report of the WG to the ccNSO recommending that the ccNSO adopts the proposed FOI and Recommendations contained in the Final Report at the ICANN Los Angeles October 2014 meeting.

In accordance with the charter of the FOI WG, its chair submitted the Final Report to the chair of GAC as well, and actively sought endorsement or support from the GAC for the FOI and Recommendations.

After an intense discussion with the ccTLD managers present at the ccNSO meeting in Los Angeles (October 2014), the ccTLD managers unanimously endorsed the FOI and expressed their support for the recommendations contained in the Final Report.

At its meeting in Los Angeles the ccNSO Council expressed its interim support for the Framework of Interpretation and the Recommendations contained in the Final Report of the FOI WG, requested its chair and the chair of the FOI WG to work with the chair of the Governmental Advisory Committee to engage with the GAC.

As part of this engagement the ccNSO has committed to engage with the GAC going forward to provide further guidance on issues relating to delegations, transfers and revocations of ccTLDs, to review and identify any gaps in the existing policies and guidelines, and to consider whether or not a formal policy development process is needed to cover these policy gaps. An example of which would be the "retirement" of ccTLDs, where there is currently no policy basis for decision-making. Further, based on the dialogue at the ccNSO-GAC joint meeting, the ccNSO Council is optimistic that the GAC will not oppose to the Framework of Interpretation and hence not object to submission of the Framework to the ICANN Board of Directors.

Finally, the ccNSO Council has been made aware that ccNSO appointed members and ccTLD participants in both the CWG Stewardship and CCWG Accountability reference the Framework of Interpretation in their work.

Resolutions

1 Support Framework of Interpretation. The ccNSO Council expresses its final support for the "Framework of Interpretation" to provide more accurate and detailed analysis

of the existing policies for the delegation, transfer and revocation of country code Top Level Domains.

2 Submission Framework of Interpretation and recommendations to CWG Stewardship and CCWG Accountability. The ccNSO Council will provide the Framework of Interpretation as an input to both the CWG-Stewardship and CCWG-Accountability working groups, with the request that the Framework and relevant recommendations from the report be incorporated into their work, including into the Service Level Agreement that will be included in the proposal for the IANA Transition Plan."

3 Submission of the Framework of Interpretation and recommendations to ICANN Board of Directors. The ccNSO Council empowers its chair and Keith Davidson, former chair of the FOIWG, to recommend the Final Report of the FOIWG to the ICANN Board of Directors, if they consider that the terms of the GAC Communiqué are compatible with such recommendations.

The ccNSO Council also recommends that ICANN adopt the Framework of Interpretation and adopt the document as the specific guidance on the interpretation of the existing, applicable policies.

With that in mind, the ccNSO Council recommends that certain previous documents including the GAC Principles 2000 (which the GAC superseded in 2005), ICANN's ICP1 and News Memo 1 should be archived and considered no longer used by ICANN or IANA staff.

The ccNSO Council urges ICANN and IANA staff to apply the Framework in the near future, and the Council stands ready to assist IANA staff with that work.