GNSO 4 month Operational Plan

15 January – 15 April

Section 1 - Current Projects

Work item, project number, priority, lead Councilor / Staff, relevant documents	Current status / Next action	Milestones	Project on schedule / comments
New gTLDs *Project No. 2005 / 01* **Priority 1** **Staff lead:** Olof Nordling **Relevant documents:** **Call for Papers on the Policy Development for the Introduction of New gTLDs** http://www.icann.org/announcements/announcement-03jan06.htm **GNSO Discussion Document; additional**	**8 December – 31 January 2006** Call for constituency statements **21 December 2005** Council decided to extend the deadline to allow for substantive papers with input on the terms of reference of the PDP. **6 December 2005** Beginning of public comment period following notification of	**31 January 2005** End of public comment period on launch of PDP **14 February 2006** Oral presentation of papers submitted/responses to questions following call for papers. **17 February 2006** Staff prepares draft Initial Report and circulates to Council **21 February 2006** Council votes on draft Initial Report **22 February 2006**	**Behind schedule -** 3 weeks Due to extension of deadline for public comment and constituency statements from 9 January 2006 to 31 January 2006.

Work item, project number, priority, lead Councilor / Staff, relevant documents	Current status / Next action	Milestones	Project on schedule / comments
evaluation of new TLDs *Circulated to Council mailing list 9 November 2005:* http://gnso.icann.org/mailing-lists/archives/council/msg01518.html **Draft GNSO Issues Report on Introduction of New TLDs,** *circulated to Council mailing list 8 November 2005:* http://gnso.icann.org/mailing-lists/archives/council/msg01507.html	the initiation of the PDP. **28 November 2005** GNSO Council voted to launch a PDP.	Initial Report published for 20 days of public comments. **16 March 2006** Conclusion of public comment period **24/25 March 2006** GNSO Council preparation **29 March 2006** GNSO Council meeting (Wellington) **? 2006** Submission of Final Report to GNSO Council **? 2006** GNSO Council meeting to discuss the report and work toward achieving a supermajority vote on a recommendation to present to the Board.	
GNSO Review *Project No. 2005/02*	**January 2006** Deadline for proposals from evaluators	**30 January 2006** Appointment of independent consultant	**On schedule**

Work item, project number, priority, lead Councilor / Staff, relevant documents	Current status / Next action	Milestones	Project on schedule / comments
Priority 1 **Staff lead:** Liz Williams **Relevant documents:**	**10 December 2005** Released Terms of Reference and Request for Proposal for Evaluators **4 December 2005** Vancouver Board meeting. Approval of Terms of Reference and resolution to proceed with GNSO Review		
GNSO work on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) *Project No. 2005 / 03* **Priority 1** **Staff lead:** Tina Dam / Maria Farrell **Relevant documents:** **Review and Recommendations for IDN, draft IAB/IETF next steps**	**17 January 2006** Council to further discuss IDN	. **Date TBA** Staff submits Issues Report to GNSO Council **Date TBA** *Meeting date of GNSO Council TBA* GNSO Council vote on whether to launch a PDP. Decision on how to execute the PDP (e.g. to create and populate a task force).	**On schedule**

Work item, project number, priority, lead Councilor / Staff, relevant documents	Current status / Next action	Milestones	Project on schedule / comments
John Klensin / Patrick Falstrom http://www.ietf.org/internet-drafts/draft-iab-idn-nextsteps-01.txt **'GNSO Policy Development for IDNs: Background Paper'** Circulated to Council mailing list on 28 October, 2005: http://gnso.icann.org/mailing-lists/archives/council/msg01479.html		If a task force is created: **Date TBA** Develop a Task Force Charter or Terms of Reference (see Annex A, section 7 of ICANN Bylaws for charter content) **Date TBA** Task force to convene and vote to appoint TF chair. **Date TBA** Call for constituency statements Public comment period **Date TBA** Submission by staff of Preliminary Task Force Report to Task Force. **Date TBA** Task Force vote on Preliminary Task Force Report. **Date TBA** Publication of Preliminary Task Force Report for public comments	

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Work item, project number, priority, lead Councilor / Staff, relevant documents	Current status / Next action	Milestones	Project on schedule / comments
		Date TBA Conclusion of public comment period **Date TBA** Submission of Final Task Force Report to GNSO Council **Date TBA** GNSO Council meeting (Wellington) to discuss the report and work toward achieving a supermajority vote to present to the Board.	
Transfers Working Group Project No. 2005 / 04 Priority 2 **GNSO Council lead:** Ross Rader **Staff lead:** Karen Lentz Maria Farrell	**Date TBA** Provisional – Transfers Working Group to report back to GNSO Council on whether further policy development work is required.		

Work item, project number, priority, lead Councilor / Staff, relevant documents	Current status / Next action	Milestones	Project on schedule / comments
Relevant documents:			
Purpose of Whois & Whois Contacts Project No. 2005 / 05 Project No. 2005 / 06 Priority 3 (subject to task force input) Staff lead: Maria Farrell	**17 January 2006** Whois Task Force vote on Preliminary Task Force Report on Purpose of Whois & Whois Contacts. **18 January – 7 February, 2006** Public comment period on Preliminary Task Force Report on Purpose of Whois & Whois Contacts.	**21 February 2006** Consideration by GNSO Council of Final Task Force Report on Purpose of WHOIS	**On schedule**
WHOIS Rec. 1 on improved notification and consent Project No. 2005 / 07	**21 February 2006** GNSO Council decision on Final Task Force Report on improved Whois notification and		

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Work item, project number, priority, lead Councilor / Staff, relevant documents	Current status / Next action	Milestones	Project on schedule / comments
Priority 1 Staff lead: Maria Farrell	consent.		
WHOIS Rec. 2 on a policy and procedure national laws Project No. 2005 / 07 Priority 1 Staff lead: Maria Farrell **Relevant documents:** **'Final task force report on a policy recommendation** **and advice on a procedure for handling conflicts between a registrar/registry's legal obligations under privacy laws and their contractual obligations to ICANN'** *Circulated to Council mailing list on 28 October, 2005:* http://gnso.icann.org/mailing-lists/archives/council/msg01480.html	**12 January 2006** GNSO reviewed and approved (on-list) Board Report prepared by staff. **28 November 2005** GNSO Council to considered Final Task Force Report and voted to accept its recommendation.	**13 January 2006** Submission of GNSO recommendation to ICANN Board	
WHOIS Accuracy Working Group	**11 January 2006**	**29 March 2006 (Wellington meeting)**	

Author: ICANN – Maria Farrell

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Work item, project number, priority, lead Councilor / Staff, relevant documents	Current status / Next action	Milestones	Project on schedule / comments
Project No. 2005 / 08 Priority 1 Council lead: Niklas Lagergren (IPC) Staff lead: Maria Farrell	Accuracy Group met and discussed proposals by Bruce Tonkin. Niklas Lagergren to prepare draft schedule and way forward and circulate to the group.	Accuracy group expects to present preliminary findings **28 June 2006 (Marrakesh meeting)** Accuracy group expects to present findings/recommendations	
ICANN Strategic and Operational Planning Process Project No. 2005 / 09 Priority 1 Council lead: Marilyn Cade / Ross Rader Staff lead: Maria Farrell		**Date TBA** Future participation by GNSO Councillors in ICANN Strategic and Operational Planning Process	**Currently on schedule**

Section 2

Non-active projects - approved but not resourced

Work item, relevant documents	Current status	Notes	
Contention for domain names at gtld registries	Work item agreed by Council resolution but not currently resourced. **13 January 2005 Council resolution** Resolution passed: "Council resolves, to request the ICANN staff manager to write an issues report (as specified in annex A to the ICANN by-laws) on the "Problems caused by contention for domain names made available by a gTLD registry ", so that Council can subsequently decide if a policy development process would be appropriate".		

12 January 2006

Section 3

Councilors' 'Wish List' – projects proposed but not yet approved

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Single letter 2nd level domain names

Council lead:
Marilyn Cade

Staff lead:
Maria Farrell

Relevant documents:
'Status report on single letter domain names'
Circulated to Council mailing list on 14 September 2005

Explore use of Wikis to support GNSO Council collaborative work online

Aleck Wilson

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 1

The Council has made a significant contribution to other ICANN core values such as outreach, bottom-up consensus based policy development, geographical diversity and transparency. It has endeavoured to make good use of the ICANN meetings to conduct outreach activities with other

ICANN organizations and with the broader internet community. The Council should plan to expand and enhance these activities.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 2

The appointment of liaisons is a good step in building links with other parts of the ICANN structure. Again consideration needs to be given to the best way that these liaisons can be used to raise awareness of Council issues. The crafting of a "role description" or "partnership agreement" may assist with setting clear expectations and maximizing outcomes.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 3

Develop a plan for increasing representation to cover all regions.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 4

Consider how people from non-English speaking backgrounds can participate more actively in Council.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 5

Develop and seek Board approval for a revised Policy Development Process.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 6

Develop a formal process for seeking input from other ICANN organizations for each of the policies it is developing.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 7

Consider other measures to speed up the consensus process, including the greater use of time at ICANN meetings to discuss issues face to face, and possibly the use of facilitators to move more quickly to understanding of issues and building of consensus.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 8

Chair of the GNSO Council and the VP Supporting Organizations should establish a service level agreement between the GNSO Council and ICANN management that specifies the amount and type of support that is to be provided. Where possible, this should include measures (eg turnaround times for legal opinion, delivery of reports by agreed dates, minutes posted within a certain number of days) The Chair should consult the Council to ensure the targets meet the needs of the Council and its taskforces. The VP Supporting Organizations and Chair of GNSO Council should meet quarterly to review performance measures and report these to the President.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 9

Council should work with the ICANN General Counsel to establish clear communication channels for the request for and provision of legal opinion. At a minimum this should include detailed legal input at the scoping phase of each PDP. Wherever possible, "check points" for further legal input should be established as part of the scoping study.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 12

Ensure the viability of implementation of each of the policy recommendations that it makes to the Board.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 14

Work with ICANN operational staff to develop a compliance policy with graded penalties.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 16

GNSO Council should utilize the Ombudsman and any reports produced by the Ombudsman as source of systematic analysis of complaints and therefore of issues that may need to be addressed through the PDP.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 17

Continue to explore ways in which the Nominating Committee members can add value to the Council process.

GNSO Council Review, recommendation 18

Draft "role descriptions" for the Nominating Committee which describe the skills, expertise (especially technical expertise) and attributes that are needed for the Nominating Committee members to be optimally effective members of the Council.