

Date: 18-Mar-2010
To: Business Constituency Members
From: Steve DelBianco, vice chair for policy coordination

Subject: Policy Coordination Calendar

The purpose of this document is to inform members of policy work before the BC, and to inspire participation and debate.

This document is organized around the 4 distinct channels where BC policy work and advocacy should be coordinated:

1. BC participation in ICANN Public Comment processes
2. Supporting discussion and voting of BC Representatives on GNSO Council
3. Supporting discussion and voting on policy matters before the Commercial Stakeholders Group (CSG)
4. BC statements and responses during public meetings (Board breakfast, outreach events, Cross-Constituency, public forum, etc.)

Current activity within each of these Channels are summarized below:

1. BC participation in ICANN Public Comment processes:

ICANN Public Comment page is at <http://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/>

Comments open now: (in order of comment closing dates)

1. GNSO Working Group Guidelines (22-Mar) Mikey circulated draft BC comment on 6-Mar.
2. Registration Abuse Policies Initial Report (28-Mar) Berry Cobb circulated draft BC comment on 18-Mar
3. Business Case for a global DNS-CERT (29-Mar)
4. Proposed Strategic Initiatives for Improved DNS Security, Stability & Resiliency (29-Mar)
5. Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) (1-Apr)
6. TM Clearinghouse (1-Apr)
7. Post Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedure (PPDRP) (1-Apr)
8. Registry Restrictions Dispute Resolution Procedure (RRDRP) (1-Apr)
9. IDN 3-Character TLDs (1-Apr)
10. IDN Variants (1-Apr)
11. Benchmarking of Registry Operations (1-Apr) (Berry Cobb)
12. Process for gTLD Registry Agreement Amendment (1-Apr) Ron Andruff and Jon Nevett are thinking about this one
13. Framework for FY2011 Operating Plan and Budget (1-Apr)
14. Interim policy for IDN ccTLDs (1-Apr)
15. Renewal of .PRO registry contract (7-Apr)
16. Draft program for High Security TLD Zones (8-Apr)
17. Zone File Access concept paper (8-Apr)

18. Draft Report on WHOIS Accuracy (15-Apr)

2. Supporting discussion and voting of BC Representatives on GNSO Council

Upcoming discussions & votes at 1-Apr GNSO Council meeting:

1. Form a Vertical Integration PDP working group and select WG chair
2. Take action on Whois studies: assess cost / feasibility estimates for studies; decide which, if any studies to pursue; and address Fy11 budgeting for studies.

Council Working Groups: Status at <http://gns0.icann.org/meetings/notes-council-18feb10-en.htm>

Vertical Integration PDP WG – still debating Objective 5 for the PDP charter. Thus far, WG volunteers from BC incl Berry Cobb, Martin Sutton, Jon Nevett, Ron Andruff. (BC should advocate flexibility for corporate TLD operator registering only its own customers) https://st.icann.org/vert-integration-pdp/index.cgi?vertical_integration_pdp

IRTP-B (Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy – Part B) nearing a report that will require BC review and comment. WG members: Berry Cobb, Chris Chaplow, Mike O'Connor, Mike Rodenbaugh.

RAP (Registration Abuse Policies)– initial report published 12-Feb by WG that includes Mike Rodenbaugh, Zahid, Phil Corwin, Martin Sutton, Mikey O'Connor, and Caleb Queern. Berry Cobb circulated draft BC comments on 18-Mar for 28-Mar deadline.

RAA (Registrar Accreditation Agreement) – discussions ongoing re issues to potentially cover in revised RAA. WG members: Phil Corwin, Phil Lodico, Mike Rodenbaugh

PEDNR (post-expiration domain name recovery) discussion ongoing to standardize transfers. WG members: Berry Cobb; Phil Corwin; Mikey O'Connor; Mike Palage; Mike Rodenbaugh

HSTLD (High Security TLDs) – convened an expert group, based on ICANN Staff proposal. Participants: Mikey O'Connor, Mike Rodenbaugh

IDN Working Group. stalled-out, though this topic is now part of Bertrand's new group working on "categories". Members: Steve DelBianco, Mike Rodenbaugh

PPSC (Steering Committee for OSC & PDP WTs). Member: Mike Rodenbaugh, Alternate: Zahid Jamil

PDP-WT (Policy Development Process) Work Team. WT members: Mike Rodenbaugh, Zahid Jamil, Marilyn Cade

OSC-WT (Operations Steering Committee) includes several sub-teams. Members incl: Philip Shepard (chair), Ron Andruff, Zahid Jamil, Mike O'Connor, Mike Rodenbaugh

Geographical Regions WG. Stalled. Members: Zahid Jamil

Also see GNSO Council pending projects, at <http://gns0.icann.org/meetings/pending-projects-list.pdf>

3. Supporting discussion and voting on policy matters before the Commercial Stakeholders Group (CSG)

Drafting of a charter for the CSG (targeted date?)

4. BC statements and responses during public meetings (Board breakfast, outreach events, Cross-Con, public forum, etc.)

Note: if the BC has no adopted position on issues arising in meetings, members may speak on their own but not "on behalf of the BC".

Other resources;

For the Nairobi meeting, ICANN released summaries and analyses of comments received on:

Economic studies on new gTLDs: although a study was promised by late January, there will be a verbal update by two new economists retained by ICANN. ICANN has contracted with Greg Rosston of Stanford University and Michael Katz of University of California Berkeley. Work will be done in a three-phase project with initial report expected in mid March and the second early June. During the first phase, the economists will survey published resources that describe the potential impacts of new gTLD introduction; examine theoretical arguments about benefits and costs of increased gTLDs; consider and propose empirical studies to identify areas where additional work can serve to assess costs and benefits. A verbal report on results will be presented during the ICANN Nairobi Meeting

Root Scaling. Staff anticipates a report from SSAC and RSSAC before Nairobi. Also, four demand scenarios for application volumes have been modeled: below expected, expected, above expected and significantly above expected. For each demand scenario, there's an assumption that only a fraction of the applications will lead to delegations, and that the processing time for the successful applications will be spread out. If there are more than, say, 500 applications, the processing will be batched further spreading out the delegation rates. These models will be published before the Nairobi meeting.

Malicious Conduct: In an effort to reduce malicious conduct in new gTLDs, ICANN created an initiative called the **High Security Zone Top Level Domain ("HSTLD")** Advisory Group. This group brings together community representatives to evaluate a voluntary program, supporting control standards and incentives that could be adopted to provide enhanced trust and security over the baseline registration-authority controls. A concept paper was published as a component of the new gTLD Draft Applicant Guidebook version 3 and can be referenced on the following link: <http://www.icann.org/en/topics/new-gtlds/high-security-zone-verification-04oct09-en.pdf> [PDF, 214 KB]

The HSLTD Advisory Group continues to work on the concept of a voluntary HSTLD program. Relevant next steps include a review and approval working draft material and work on controls necessary to support the HSTLD purpose, goals and principles. <http://icann.org/en/topics/new-gtlds/hstld-program-en.htm>

Also part of addressing malicious conduct concerns is the creation of another advisory group addressing **Zone File Access**. The group was formed to study and discuss (benefits and methods) to effectively and efficiently enhance access to zone file information (anticipating an environment with many gTLDs). Details of this groups work can be found here: <http://www.icann.org/en/topics/new-gtlds/zone-file-access-en.htm>

The Draft Applicant Guidebook, Version 4 is expected to be published prior to the ICANN Brussels Meeting (20-25 June 2010). Draft Applicant Guidebook, Version 3 <<http://icann.org/en/topics/new-gtlds/draft-rfp-clean-04oct09-en.pdf>> [PDF, 1.5 MB]