January 22, 2015

Jonathan Robinson

Chair

GNSO Council

Via e-mail to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-

Dear Jonathan:

The Standing Committee on Improvement Implementation (SCI) is pleased to report the election of officers for 2015. Anne Aikman-Scalese (IPC) has been elected as Chair and Lori Schulman (NPOC) as Vice Chair.

SCI is currently planning its work for 2015 and is seeking further direction from the Council in this regard. As you know, the purpose of the SCI is to review and assess the effective functioning of GNSO Procedures and WG guidelines. This work falls into two general categories: (1) requests for review from the Council relating to immediate problems and (2) periodic review of all procedures and guidelines in order to identify possible issues and/or improvements.

Various possibilities for the 2015 SCI work plan are under discussion by SCI members and include:

1. Review of GNSO Council motion procedures. Is there a need to codify the motion seconding procedure as well as the procedure for friendly amendments or should these remain informal? Should procedures be developed for identifying amendments as friendly?
2. Full review of Working Group consensus levels. An amendment was approved by Council in 2014 to add a footnote to clarify the fact that there can be “Consensus Against” a particular recommendation. At that time, it was suggested that perhaps a full review of WG consensus levels should be undertaken in accordance with SCI’s periodic review responsibilities.
3. Full Review of GNSO operating procedures (including PDP Manual and WG Guidelines). It has been noted that SCI’s periodic review responsibilities will require a full review of GNSO operating procedures at the appropriate time.

SCI seeks further guidance from the Council in relation to priorities for 2015. We are also mindful that issues arising from the results of the GNSO Review are likely to impact our work plan for 2015. In light of the recent statement from the Non-Contracted Parties House relating to GNSO structure, we would also be happy to undertake any procedural review desired by the Council in relation that letter. Pending further specific guidance, SCI will seek to develop consensus as to which periodic review function would best serve the Council and the Community and report accordingly

We look forward to receiving your response to the questions above and the Council’s view on how we prioritize our work for 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Aikman-Scalese

SCI 2015 Chair