V. IRT Operating Principles

1. Meetings of the IRT are scheduled by the GDD Project Manager in a timely manner, in consultation with the members of the IRT. The GDD Project Manager is expected to circulate the draft agenda to the IRT at least 24 hours in advance and will send out the call-in details and other relevant materials to all the members of the IRT.
2. There is a presumption of that all IRTs will operate with full transparency, with at a minimum a publicly archived mailing list and recording of all IRT calls. In the extraordinary event that the IRT should require confidentiality, the IRT is expected to conduct its meeting(s) in accordance with the Chatham House Rule[[1]](#footnote-1) as the preferred option.
3. The GDD Project Manager will lead the meetings of the IRT.
4. If there is lack of participation resulting in meetings being cancelled and/or decisions being postponed, the GDD Project Manager is expected to explore the reasons (e.g. issues with the schedule of meetings, conflict with other activities or priorities) and attempt to address them (e.g. review meeting schedule). However, should the lack of participation be reasonably deemed to be the result of IRT members seeing no specific need to attend the calls as they are content with the direction the implementation is going, ICANN Staff can continue with the proposed implementation plan as long as: (i) a notice to this effect is sent to the IRT; and (ii) regular updates are provided, including on decisions being taken, on the mailing list and deadlines for input are clearly communicated.
5. In the event of disagreement between ICANN Staff and the IRT or any of its members on the implementation approach proposed by ICANN Staff, the GDD Project Manager, in consultation with the GNSO Council liaison if appropriate, shall exercise all reasonable efforts to resolve the disagreement. Should the disagreement prove irreconcilable despite such efforts, the GNSO Council liaison is expected to make an assessment as to the level of consensus within the IRT on whether to escalate the issue to the GNSO Council for consideration, using the standard decision making methodology outlined in the GNSO Working Group Guidelines. If the GNSO Council liaison makes the determination that there is consensus for such escalation, the following procedure applies:

* To be defined following WG agreement on the above Operating Principles

1. See <http://www.chathamhouse.org/about/chatham-house-rule> for a description of the Chatham House Rule. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)