

Draft Principles for Cross-SO/AC Working Groups (CWGs)

1. Scope of CWGs -

- 1.1. The purpose of CWGs should be limited to : 1) providing a discussion forum to achieve greater community understanding of issues of common interest; or 2) providing advice to the ICANN staff, community and/or ICANN Board on issues of common interest.
- 1.2. CWGs may not be used to develop new consensus policy. Each SO has its own rules for developing new policy.

2. Practices for CWGs --

- 2.1. GNSO Working Group Guidelines (or similar defined) should apply to all CWGs whenever possible. Exceptions should be detailed, and explained, in the charter for the CWG.
- 2.2. All CWGs should be chartered by the applicable SOs and ACs (including those initiated by the Board) and each SO and AC should approve a single charter.
- 2.3. The Charter should speak to the outcomes expected of the group and the steps that must be followed for review of those outcomes by the chartering SOs and ACs.
- 2.4. CWGs should be expected to follow the approved charter. If a concern arises, it should be brought to all chartering organizations for resolution according to Working Group Guidelines.
- 2.5. The Final Reports and Outcomes of all CWGs should be communicated to the chartering organizations (only) for review and further action.
- 2.6. The participating SOs and ACs will make time commitments to finalize actions so as not to unreasonably delay action on a CWG report.
- 2.7. SOs and ACs should make all reasonable efforts to solicit and consider the views of other SOs and ACs and to try to accommodate diverging views where possible before finalizing their positions.
- 2.8. If the work of a CWG leads to a policy recommendation, that recommendation would still need to be considered and approved through the appropriate Policy Development Process.