Minutes of the GNSO Council Meeting 12 October 2017

[Agenda](#) and [Documents](#)

Coordinated Universal Time: 12:00 UTC: http://tinyurl.com/ya74wnq9

05:00 Los Angeles; 08:00 Washington; 13:00 London; 15:00 Istanbul; 23:00 Hobart

The meeting started at: 12:04 UTC

 List of attendees:
NCA – Non-Voting – Erika Mann
Contracted Parties House
Registrar Stakeholder Group: James Bladel, Michele Neylon, Darcy Southwell
gTLD Registries Stakeholder Group: Donna Austin, Keith Drazek, Rubens Kühl
Nominating Committee Appointee (NCA): Hsu Phen Valerie Tan
Non-Contracted Parties House
Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG): Philip Corwin, Susan Kawaguchi, Wolf-Ulrich Knoben, Tony Harris, Paul McGrady, Heather Forrest
Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG): Martin Silva Valent, Stephanie Perrin, Rafik Dammak, Tatiana Tropina (temporary alternate for Ed Morris), Stefania Milan, Marilia Maciel, Nominating Committee Appointee (NCA): Julf (Johan) Helsingius
GNSO Council Liaisons/Observers:
Cheryl Langdon-Orr– ALAC Liaison
Ben Fuller - ccNSO Observer
Carlos Raul Gutierrez– GNSO liaison to the GAC
Invited Guests:
Patrick Jones – Senior Director, Global Stakeholder Engagement
Carlos Reyes – Policy Support & Community Service Senior Manager

ICANN Staff
Markus Kummer - ICANN Board Member – (sent apologies)
David Olive -Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support and Managing Manager, ICANN Regional
Marika Konings – Vice President, Policy Development Support - GNSO
Mary Wong – Senior Director, Special Adviser for Strategic Policy Planning
Julie Hedlund – Policy Director
Steve Chan - Senior Policy Manager, Policy Development Support
Berry Cobb – Policy consultant
Emily Barabas – Policy Analyst
Ariel Liang – Policy Analyst
Mike Brennan – Technical Support
Nathalie Peregrine - Manager, Operations Support (GNSO)
Terri Agnew - Operations Support - GNSO Lead Administrator

[MP3 Recording](#)
[Adobe Chat Transcript](#)
[Transcript](#)

Item 1: Administrative matters

1.1 – Roll call

Marika Konings, ICANN staff, gave an update about recent GNSO staff changes.

1.2 – Updates to Statements of Interest

There were no updates to councilors' Statements of Interest.

1.3 – Review/amend agenda

There were no changes requested to the agenda.

1.4 –The minutes of the meeting of the GNSO Council on 20 September 2017, were posted on 08 October 2017

Item 2: Opening Remarks / Review of Projects & Action List

2.1 – Review focus areas and provide updates on specific key themes / topics, to include review of Projects List and Action List.

The items on the Project list as well as the completed and pending Action items were highlighted by James Bladel. It was noted that the GNSO Council Chairs had met with the chairs and co-chairs of the GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Groups (WGs) to discuss updates on the current activities of the WGs.

Item 3. Consent Agenda
Councilors were invited to approve the appointment of Cheryl Langdon-Orr as an additional co-chair for the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group, to join current co-chairs Jeff Neuman and Avri Doria, along with Council liaison Paul McGrady. The Council thanked Avri Doria for her work as co-chair of the PDP WG.
The motion was voted unanimously.

Vote results

Item 4: COUNCIL DISCUSSION – Standing Committee on Draft Budget Cycle

James Bladel reminded the Council that given that the Empowered Community has a greater role to place in ICANN budget deliberations, the possibility of forming a Standing Committee of councilors had been raised with the aim of participating in the budget review process and getting the Council's comments and feedback at an earlier stage of the development. This would take place in parallel to the efforts taking place within the Stakeholder Groups (SGs) and Constituencies (Cs). A draft call for volunteers and charter had been circulated prior to the meeting. Councilors proceeded to discuss the scope of the Standing Committee within the policy management responsibility of the Council and its composition. The point was raised that the Council would be concerned with Council related budget expenditure only, and that observers to the Standing Committee would be considered. Concern was expressed at a possible duplication of effort of the committee with the work of the SGs and Cs. It was also confirmed that the call for volunteers was aimed at seated councilors as well as incoming councilors.

Action Item(s):
* *ICANN policy staff* to produce a red-lined document, intended to integrate feedback received during the 12 October Council call.

Item 5: COUNCIL DISCUSSION – Future ICANN meeting planning

ICANN meetings have been following the structure recommended by the Multi-Stakeholder Meeting Strategy Working Group (MSWG) in 2014. Councilors discussed the path forward for review of existing suggested adjustments and possible formulation of its own adjustments to the ICANN meeting strategy.

Donna Austin raised the topics of meeting length and of more substantive changes to the meeting structure – such two Policy meetings and one Annual General Meeting - to be community-driven. Councilors then exchanged on possible changes such as having a plan B location to each selected ICANN meeting location as back-up, on the purpose proper of ICANN meetings (outreach or engagement opportunity for active community members) and the impact of meeting location on the increase in participation of volunteers from the location's region. Issues of visa application and human rights problems in certain areas were raised.

Action item(s):
- *Councilors* to review ICANN org paper, when published, regarding proposed adjustments (i.e., tweaks) to the ICANN meeting strategy and determine any potential next steps accordingly (e.g., establish a drafting team, work in coordination with the ccNSO, etc.)

Item 6: COUNCIL DISCUSSION – Planning for ICANN60

Staff went over the GNSO ICANN60 schedule pointing out meetings of interest.

Item 7: COUNCIL DISCUSSION – Planning for joint meetings with GAC, ccNSO, and ICANN Board at ICANN60

Councilors discussed potential topics of discussion for the meetings with the GAC, ccNSO and ICANN Board. These covered ICANN meetings and potential changes to the meeting strategy, GDPR, New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Work Track 5, Board transparency on Board workshop output, presenting the aim of the GNSO Strategic planning session,

Councilors were reminded to ask precise questions on the broader topics to better engage in discussion.

Action Item(s):
- *ICANN policy staff* to put proposed agendas for joint meeting with the GAC, ccNSO, and ICANN Board onto a Wiki page and also share with Council list
- *Councilors* to review, then volunteer as owners for agenda items and identify speaking points

Item 8: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 – Discussion of preparatory activities for the GNSO Council Strategic Planning Session.

Heather Forrest presented potential items of discussion for the Planning session:
- Role and remit of the Council, impact of the new Bylaws, Council leadership
- GNSO role in the Empowered Community
- Strategic planning for 2018

8.2 – Discussion about the ICANN organization consultation process on community resources, the aim of which is to solicit input from SO/AC groups to update the ICANN Community Travel Support Guidelines.

Patrick Jones and Carlos Reyes, ICANN staff, presented to the Council the community travel support guidelines explaining the need for community input and which form this would take. A questionnaire will be circulated to community members to gather input, the deadline at which to submit responses is the 17 November 2017. Councilors then asked questions about whom this specific questionnaire was targeting, the general repartition of resources amongst ICANN's community members and when these proposed changes would be implemented.

Action Item(s):
- *Councilors* to complete survey distributed to the Council list on 4 October and circulate to their respective SG/Cs

8.3 – The co-chairs of the Sub-Pro WG have reported that Martin Sutton has been selected as the Work Track 5 co-lead from the GNSO. While not subject to a Council vote, the WG co-chairs wanted to ensure an opportunity for discussion on the selection on this Council call.

Paul McGrady, Council liaison to the Sub-Pro WG, informed the Council that the co-chairs have selected Martin Sutton to serve as the co-chair from the GNSO to work track 5. Background information on Martin Sutton's role in the Brand Registry Group and his activities in the GNSO was provided to the Council. Further detail was shared regarding the selection process of the co-chairs of WT5.

8.4 – Update on the *Community gTLD Change Request Process* agenda item, first discussed on the 20 September 2017 Council call.

Donna Austin clarified to councilors that certain community GTLD registries that have been working with ICANN to develop a process that would enable them to change specification 12 of their registry agreement. This was done on the understanding that it was an implementation issue and they are seeking confirmation of that from the Council. Staff further clarified that Global Domains Division staff (GDD) also recognized the need for clarity or a remit mandate from the GNSO to be able to determine if this can be pursued as an implementation detail or whether it requires policy recommendations from the GNSO.

James Bladel, GNSO Council Chair, adjourned the GNSO Council meeting and thanked everyone for participating.
The meeting was adjourned at 14:05 UTC, Thursday 12 October 2017

The next GNSO Council Meeting will take place on 1 November 2017 at 13:00 local time in Abu Dhabi. For other places see: http://tinyurl.com/ya25s9pw