GNSO
Policy Development Process
“The PDP is broken ... ”
Because it is so slow …

- Average PDP takes 2-3 years to complete, from request to Issue Report to Board Vote
- Compare to: IETF (approx. 1000 days) & ccNSO (5+ years)
- Multi-stakeholder is a marathon not a sprint
Because you never reach consensus ...

- 8 out of 9 recent PDPs have resulted in consensus recommendations
- Only Vertical Integration resulted in no consensus and non-completion of PDP
Because you don’t allow others to participate or provide input ...

• All GNSO DT and WGs are open to anyone interested to participate

• At least 3 public comment forums before Board considers recommendations

• All SO/ACs requested to provide input early in the process
Because you punt decisions to implementation ... 

- Definitely an issue with the new gTLD PDP, but the exception is not the rule
- Implementation Review Teams working in tandem with staff – further guidance expected as a result of Policy & Implementation WG
But, there is always room for improvement ...
Possible options for streamlining

• Include proposed charter as part of the Issue Report, which would allow Council to initiate PDP and adopt charter at the same time, should it decide so

• It takes a WG approx. 40 – 50 meetings / hours to get to a Final Report – what if some of that time is used consecutively instead of one hour a week?

• More hands make light work – same core group of volunteers doing most of the heavy lifting

• Online tools & training
Possible options for streamlining (continued)

• More effective collaboration with other SO/ACs to obtain early input
• Use of a rapporteur to develop first draft of report / recommendations early on in the process
• Professional moderators / facilitation for ‘difficult’ topics
• Involvement of (implementation) experts during the policy development process
• Organize workshops / discussions at the outset
• Better data & metrics
Possible structural changes

- Develop fast-track process for GNSO Policy “Advice” or “Guidance” which can be used for policy recommendations that are not Consensus Policy
- Require WG representative / participant from each SG/C and possible liaison from SO/ACs
The PDP is not broken!
We can make optimal use of the flexibility that exists within the current framework and we can focus on the external factors (engagement, volunteers) to make it more efficient and multi-stakeholder.
Thank you