Report on Independent Review Schedule

Update on GNSO Improvement Process

December 2006

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Policy Development
• Bylaws call for periodic, independent review of ICANN’s SO’s, Councils, Advisory Committees (except GAC) and NomCom.
• Intended to ensure independent examination ICANN’s structure and operations.
• Part of ICANN’s commitment to its evolution and improvement.
Independent Reviews - Direction

- Conducted in an objective way by independent evaluator.
- Under direction of the Board Governance Committee and agreement of the Board through Terms of Reference.
- With opportunities for public review and comment.
Independent Reviews - Elements


• Elements of GNSO review included:
  – Establishing terms of reference (TOR)
  – Issuing request for proposals (RFP)
  – Selecting consultant
  – Managing and providing information for consultant’s work
  – Arranging for information sharing and briefings on final report.
• Considered age, responsibilities, activities of each entity to be reviewed, and cost and operational limitations for managing/implementing reviews.
• Recommended increasing the budget for each review to ensure resources match needs for professional consultants and review activities.
• Agreed to comprehensive schedule for all reviews, to be reviewed by BGC for progress and potential adjustment.
• Agreed to add a review of the Board to the review queue.
• Review schedule is on Board’s agenda for agreement.
BGC Review Schedule

- Nominating Committee – estimated launch December 2006
- At-Large Advisory Committee – estimated launch February 2007
- DNS Root Server System Advisory Committee – estimated launch July 2007
- Board – estimated launch October 2007
- Security and Stability Advisory Committee – estimated launch January 2008
- ccNSO Supporting Organisation – estimated launch July 2008
- Address Supporting Organisation – estimated launch December 2008
GNSO Review – Terms of Reference

• Addressed:
  – Representativeness
  – Effectiveness
  – Transparency
  – Compliance

• Used:
  – Operational Analysis, Statistics
  – Quantifying Focus Areas
  – Mapping Relationships and Interactions
  – Capturing and Mapping Perceptions
GNSO Review – Recommendations

24 recommendations in four areas:
1. Changes need to enhance representativeness of Council, Constituencies;
2. GNSO operations need to be more visible, transparent to wider range of stakeholders;
3. GNSO structures need to be more flexible, adaptable, able to respond more directly to changing stakeholder needs;
4. Changes in Council’s operations needed to enhance its ability to reach genuinely consensus positions.

Report posted for public comment at:
<http://www.icann.org/announcements/gnso-review-report-sep06.pdf>
GNSO Review – Improvement Process

• Board Governance Committee responsible for approving a “GNSO Improvement Process” for Board agreement.

• BGC considering approaches for development and adoption of improvements to GNSO’s policy activities, structure, operations, and communications.

• BGC in dialogue with GNSO Council, constituency members, and community and will continue its deliberations.