

ICANN|55 MARRAKECH

5 – 10 March 2016





New gTLD Auction Proceeds Drafting Team Update

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Agenda

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Background
and Purpose

2

How we got
here

3

Where we
are

4

Questions



New gTLD Auction Proceeds Drafting Team update Background and Purpose

Background and Purpose

1

Auctions are the mechanism of last resort to resolve string contention within the New gTLD Program

2

Expected that most string contention will be resolved through other means before reaching an Auction.

3

Significant funding has accrued as a result of several Auctions, these proceeds have been reserved and earmarked – currently \$105.6 million USD

4

Board, staff, and community are expected to be working together in designing and participating in the next steps addressing the use of new gTLD auction proceeds

Background and Process: Applicant Guidebook

The Applicant Guidebook stated:

“Funds must be used in a manner that supports directly ICANN’s Mission and Core Values and also allows ICANN to maintain its not for profit status.

Possible Possible uses of auction funds include formation of a foundation with a clear mission and a transparent way to allocate funds to projects that are of interest to the greater Internet community, such as grants to support new gTLD applications or registry operators from communities in subsequent gTLD rounds, the creation of an ICANN-administered/community-based fund for specific projects for the benefit of the Internet community, the creation of a registry continuity fund for the protection of registrants (ensuring that funds would be in place to support the operation of a gTLD registry until a successor could be found), or establishment of a security fund to expand use of secure protocols, conduct research, and support standards development organizations in accordance with ICANN's security and stability mission.”

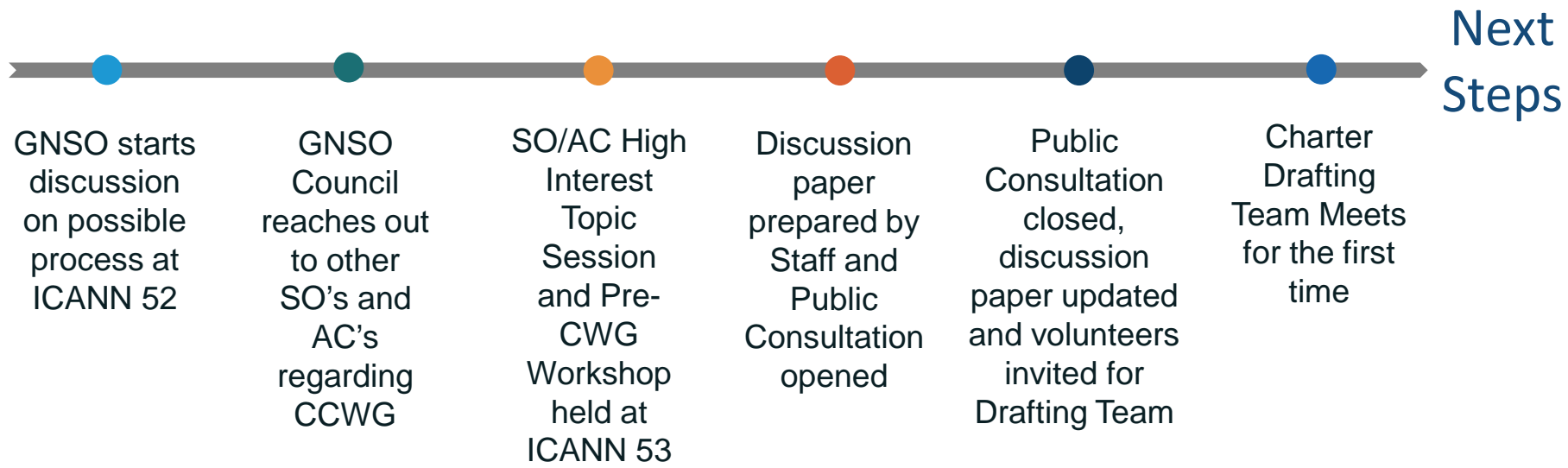


New gTLD Auction Proceeds Drafting Team update

Where we are and How we got here



Where we are: Timeline



Buenos Aires Session Key Takeaways

1

Broad and substantial interest in the topic

2

Many ideas about how funds could / should be distributed

3

Recognition that principles / process & framework to be developed first

4

Suggestion – Discussion paper to guide future work and dialogue

The background of the slide is a teal color. Overlaid on this is a stylized world map. The map is formed by a complex network of white dots of varying sizes, connected by thin white lines. The dots are more densely packed in some areas, particularly in North America and Europe, and more sparse in others. The overall effect is a digital, interconnected globe.

Discussion Paper Overview

Discussion Paper – Structure & Purpose

Purpose

- A call for broad, open, and inclusive public comment on the topic of the proceeds from ICANN-conducted auctions for contested new generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) strings
- To encourage participation from all sectors, regions and levels (or no level) of engagement with the ICANN community

Structure

- Background: New gTLD program and current financial status
- Community and Board Discussions covering: GNSO Council initiative for a CCWG; Buenos Aires sessions; Proposal for discussion paper; ICANN Board discussions (Board Chair's personal reflections)
- Issues to be considered and addressed: building on initial comments from all
- Next Steps



Issues to be considered

1

Focus on Framework Development

4

Conflict of Interest

2

Intelligence Gathering / Expert Involvement / Participation / Outreach

5

Linkages with other efforts

3

Board Involvement

6

Implementation

Public Comment on Discussion Paper

- 28 contributions were received in response. Comments focused on clarifications/corrections, comments related to proposed next steps and general and specific suggestions for how auction proceeds should be spent
- General support for moving forward with a CCWG
- Updated discussion paper published to reflect public comments received (see <http://gns0.icann.org/en/drafts/new-gtld-auction-proceeds-07dec15-en.pdf>)



New gTLD Auction Proceeds Drafting Team Where we are

Formation of DT

- Following publication of updated Discussion Paper, GNSO Chair reached out to all SO/ACs to identify volunteers
- All SO/ACs, apart from the ccNSO, have put forward volunteers (ALAC, ASO, GAC, RSSAC, SSAC)
- DT tasked to develop a charter for a Cross-Community Working Group on new gTLD Auction Proceeds for consideration by the ICANN SO/ACs for adoption
- First meeting held on 23 February 2016

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Next Steps

- The DT to review background materials, including the comments received on the discussion paper relevant to the development of the charter.
- Template charter provided as starting point
- Staff are currently working with the DT to establish a meeting cycle which is sympathetic to the geographic distribution of DT participants.
- Considerations of the DT may be informed by the Draft Uniform Framework for a Cross Community Working Group (CCWG) Life Cycle: Principles and Recommendations.



Questions