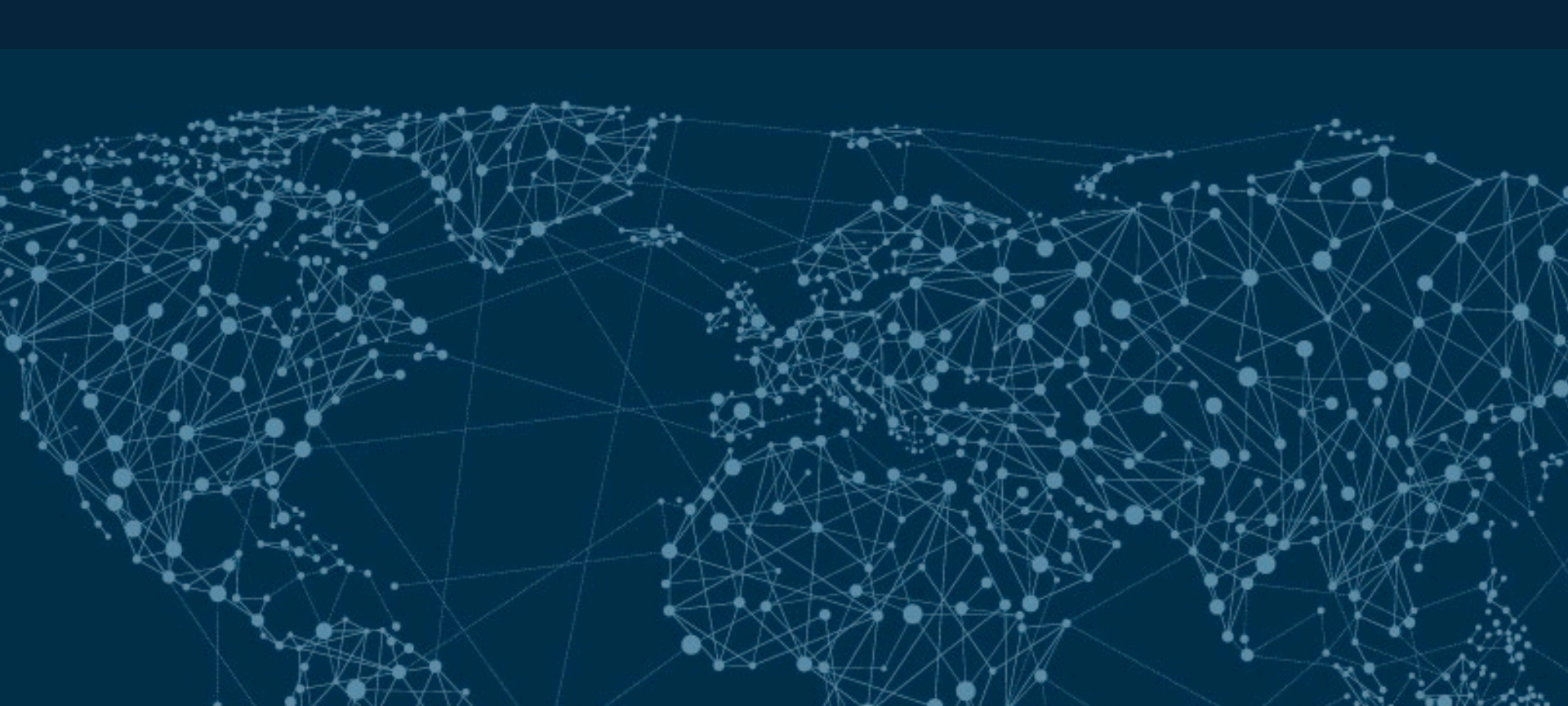


A photograph of the Charminar in Hyderabad, India, at night. The monument is illuminated with warm yellow lights, highlighting its intricate architectural details, including the two prominent minarets and the central archway. The sky is a deep blue, and the foreground shows blurred lights from a busy street. The text 'I CANN|57 HYDERABAD' is overlaid in white on the right side of the image.

# I CANN|57 HYDERABAD



# Registry Service Provider Certification

ICANN57 | 7 November 2016

# Agenda

**1**

**Introduction  
(5 mins)**

**2**

**Panel  
(30 mins)**

**3**

**High-Level  
Concept  
Presentation  
(10 mins)**

**4**

**Open  
Discussion  
(25 mins)**

**5**

**Wrap Up and  
Next Steps  
(5 mins)**



# Why We Are Here

- ⦿ Explore concept of Registry Service Provider certification program
  - Work collaboratively with community to solve a set problems identified by Registries, RSPs and ICANN

## **Motivation:**

- Public comments to New gTLD Program Implementation Review Report
- Input provided in GDD Summit 2016 session
- Registry Operator and RSP feedback and frustrations
- Staff experiences with the 1100+ gTLDs

# Panel





# New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP WG Consideration of RSP Certification

Jeff Neuman | Registry Service Provider Certification | 7 Nov 2016

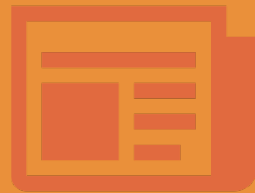
# New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group

## Overview

Community efforts, such as the PDP and various reviews, are underway to take into consideration the 2012 new gTLD round and seek ways to improve, refine, or develop new policy recommendations for new gTLDs, acknowledging that there is existing new gTLD policy from the GNSO's 2007 Final Report on the Introduction of New gTLDs

## Working Group Consideration of RSP Certification/Accreditation

Sub Team 1 of the Working Group is deliberating on the possible advantages and drawbacks of a RSP certification/accreditation program in the context of the new gTLD program.



## Learn more

Read more about the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group at:

<https://community.icann.org/x/RgV1Aw>

# Benefits of Registry Service Provider Certification/Accreditation



# Potential Benefits (1/2)

## **Problem to Solve: Lack of predictability**

### **Benefits of RSP Certification:**

- Create consistency in evaluation results for registry operators, leading to improved predictability
- Provide back-end providers certainty going forward in that they can meet/exceed ICANN's requirements and can demonstrate this to applicants

## **Problem to Solve: Slow, inefficient, costly process**

### **Benefits of RSP Certification:**

- Quicker processing of applications, if accreditation done in advance
- Quicker time to delegation as all PDT tests done in advance
- Avoid unnecessary repeat evaluations/testing
- Reduce the number of people ICANN needs to review an application
- Potentially lead to lower (TLD) application fees for registry operators
- Reduce costs and time for switching back end providers
- Increase accessibility of the marketplace for more businesses & organizations, some of whom did not apply in the first round due to high costs

# Potential Benefits (2/2)

## **Problem to Solve: Lack of choice/diversity**

### **Benefits of RSP Certification:**

- Increase initial choice in back-end operators, improving competition by allowing other third-parties to become RSPs
- Increase portability of back-end registry operators, simplify ICANN processes to change back end operators, which is good for competition
- Open door to new entrants
- Improve geographic diversity and engagement by putting competent RSPs with potential ROs in the same region (Africa)

### **Additional benefits:**

- Potentially increase security and stability
- For RSPs, help gain official identity within the ecosystem of TLD domain industry
- Create new market by establishing a unified set of requirements for RSPs
- Improve secondary market for TLDs

# High-Level Concept Presentation



# Guiding Principles

1

Increase competition

2

Improve security and stability for gTLDs

3

Reduce burdens on Registry Operators and Registry Service Providers

4

Reduce or maintain cost to the industry

# Objectives

- ⦿ Improve processes associated with changing RSP
  - Improve security, stability and resiliency during RSP changes
  - Reduce costs when switching RSP
- ⦿ Transition from pre-test to ongoing technical monitoring
- ⦿ Create direct channel between ICANN and RSPs
- ⦿ Reduce financial and administrative burden of RO while maintaining security and stability
  - Eliminate Continued Operations Instrument (COI)
  - Reduce risk of TLD failure due to Registry Operator business failure
  - Reduce risk of RSP technical failure
  - Clarify expectations of RSPs

# RSP Certification Concept

## Optional Program

Current RSPs of gTLDs could become initial pool of certified providers

## Mechanism to enable ICANN and RSPs to achieve:

- Reduced technical testing when acquiring new gTLDs
- Cooperation between RSPs during RSP transitions
- Continued service for limited periods in the event of an RO failing or exiting (in lieu of ICANN invoking EBERO)
- Enforcement and ability to ensure compliance with certification requirements
- Direct channel between ICANN and RSPs

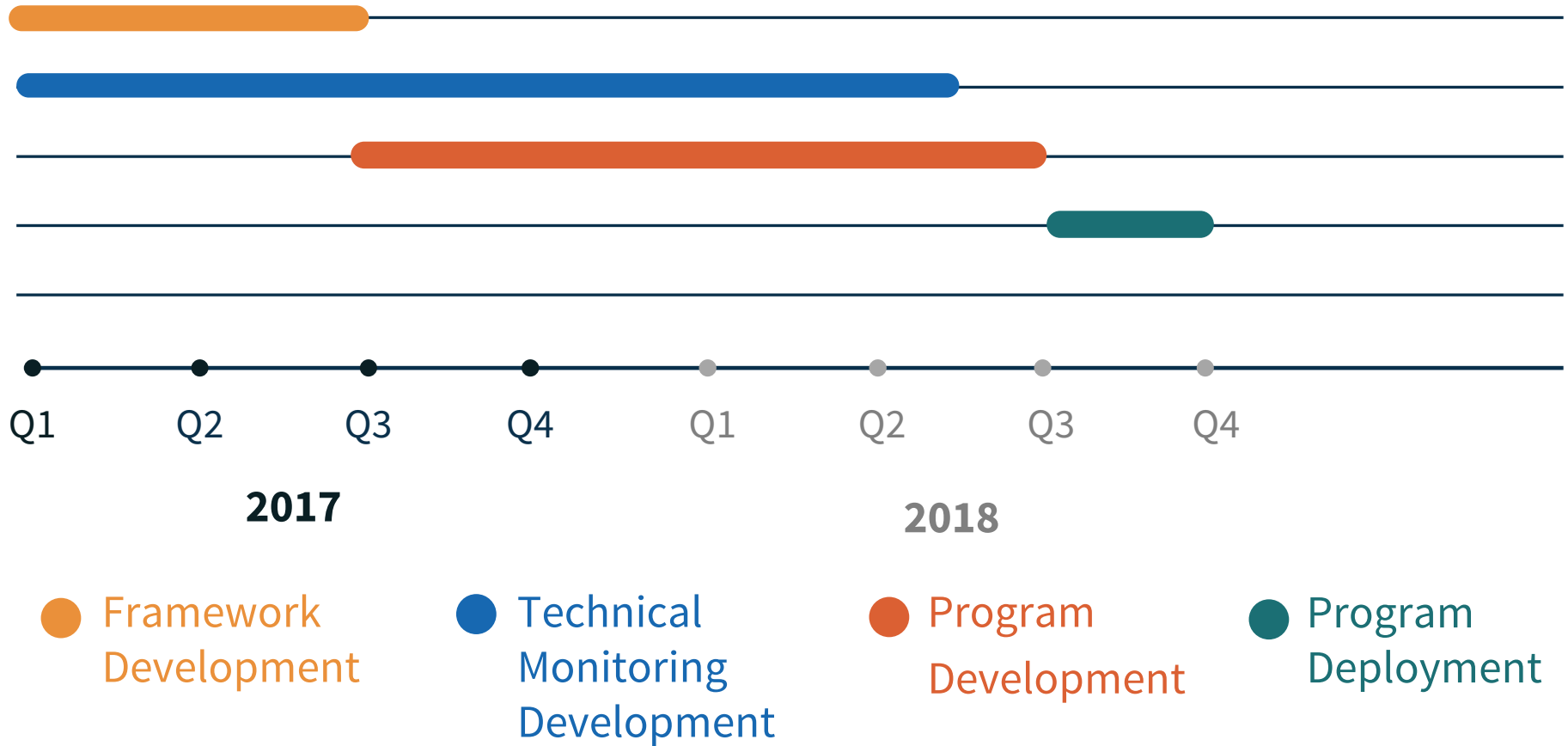


## Established, Performance-Based Technical Criteria

- Consistent performance across all gTLDs
- Service levels defined in Registry Agreements
- Other observable/trackable technical requirements defined in Registry Agreements
  - E.g., conformance of WHOIS output to specification



# Tentative Timeline



# Some Key Questions

- ⦿ Approach to solve the problems identified?
- ⦿ Benefits of the program?
- ⦿ Impact to Registrars? If so, how to mitigate it?
- ⦿ Initial Certification Criteria (grandfathering?)
- ⦿ Levels of certification?
- ⦿ Criteria to sustain certification?
- ⦿ Frequency for recertification?
- ⦿ Enforcement mechanisms?

# Participate in Defining the Solution

- ⦿ Open call for participation in a small working group
  - Weekly meetings
  - Review documents
- ⦿ No predefined number of participants
- ⦿ Diversity desired
- ⦿ Anticipate multiple opportunities for wider community feedback (e.g., Public Comment)
- ⦿ Work in open, transparent manner
  - Recordings/presentation materials published
  - Mailing list openly archived



# Open Discussion

# Next Steps

- ⦿ ICANN to publish a call for volunteers to participate in defining the Program
- ⦿ Work scheduled to start in 2017

# Engage with ICANN



## Thank You and Questions

Reach us at:

Email: [globalSupport@icann.org](mailto:globalSupport@icann.org)

Website: [icann.org](http://icann.org)



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