## Final Recommendations

## 10. Improve the Effectiveness of Cross Community Deliberations

10.1. To enhance GNSO policy development processes and methodologies to better meet community needs and be more suitable for addressing complex problems, ICANN should:

10.1.1 In line with ongoing discussions within the GNSO, develop funded options for professional services to assist GNSO policy development WGs. Such services could include training to enhance work group leaders and participants ability to address difficult problems and situations, professional facilitation, mediation, negotiation. The GNSO should develop guidelines for when such options may be invoked,

10.1.2 Provide adequate funding for face-to-face meetings to augment e-mail, wiki and teleconferences for GNSO policy development processes. Such face-to-face meeting must also accommodate remote participation, and consideration should also be given to using regional ICANN facilities (regional hubs and engagement centers) to support intersessional meeting. Moreover, the possibility of meetings added on to the start or end of ICANN meetings could also be considered. The GNSO must develop guidelines for when such meetings are required and justified, and who should participate in such meetings.

10.1.3 Work with the GNSO and the wider ICANN community to develop methodologies and tools to allow the GNSO policy development processes to utilize volunteer’s time more effectively, increasing the ability to attract busy community participants into the process and also resulting in quicker policy development.

10.2. The GAC, in conjunction with the GNSO, must develop methodologies to ensure that GAC and government input is provided to ICANN policy development processes and that the GAC has effective opportunities to provide input and guidance on draft policy development outcomes. Such opportunities could be entirely new mechanisms or utilization of those already used by other stakeholders in the ICANN environment. Such interactions should encourage information exchanges and sharing of ideas/opinions, both in face to face meetings and intersessionally, and should institutionalize the cross-community deliberations foreseen by the AoC.

10.3. The Board and the GNSO should charter a strategic initiative addressing the need for ensuring more global participation in GNSO policy development processes, as well as other GNSO processes. The focus should be on the viability and methodology of having the opportunity for equitable, substantive and robust participation from and representing:

10.3.1 All ICANN communities with an interest in GTLD policy and in particular, those represented within the GNSO;

10.3.2 under-represented geographical regions;

10.3.3 non-English speaking linguistic groups;

10.3.4 those with non-Western cultural traditions; and

10.3.5 those with a vital interest in GTLD policy issues but who lack the financial support of industry players.

10.4. To improve the transparency and predictability of the policy development process the Board should clearly state to what degree it believes that it may establish gTLD policy[[1]](#footnote-1) in the event that the GNSO cannot come to closure on a specific issue, in a specified time-frame if applicable, and to the extent that it may do so, the process for establishing such gTLD policies. This statement should also note under what conditions the Board believes it may alter GNSO Policy Recommendations, either before or after formal Board acceptance.

10.5 The Board must facilitate the equitable participation in applicable ICANN activities, of those ICANN stakeholders who lack the financial support of industry players.

FORMERLY 10.4.2, Move to become part of new Rec 7 on the public comment process.

10.4.2 ICANN should establish a process under the Public Comment Process where those who commented or replied during the Comment Period can request changes to the synthesis reports in cases where they believe the Staff incorrectly summarized their comment.

1. This is not referring to Temporary Policies established on an emergency basis to address security or stability issues, a right that the Board has under ICANN agreements with contracted parties. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)