ccNSO Council Statement:
Evolving ICANN's Multistakeholder Model

Date: 4 June 2019

The ccNSO Council welcomes the opportunity to comment and further define issues that challenge the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model. The ccNSO Council reviewed the issue list as published on https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/draft-evolving-multistakeholder-model-issues-list-25apr19-en.pdf and hereby provides its comments to a few selected issues. Moreover, please find included a top 3 prioritisation of the items on the issue list.

02. ISSUE: Complexity

specific example about how the issue hampers the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model:

On numerous occasions, newcomers are challenged to get involved by the complexity of the topics and the excessive use of acronyms. This has been an everlasting comment and is again expressed as a public comment made by newcomers at recent ICANN meetings.

The ICANN Strategic and Operating Plan are another example of how complexity affects the effectiveness of the model. ICANN invites stakeholders to comment on them on a regular basis, but these documents require:

- High level knowledge of the Strategic and Operating Plan framework.
- In-depth knowledge of the ICANN structure.
- Time to be read and eventually, commented.
- Full and in-depth knowledge of the English language. On many occasions the ccNSO Strategic and Operational Planning Committee (SOPC) highlighted the fact that these documents are not-so-accessible even for native English speakers.

06. ISSUE: Recruitment

specific example about how the issue hampers the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model:

Many of the current volunteers have been devoting their time and hard work for a very long time, and regardless of the amazing results they are achieving, we can't expect them to be here forever. It is very important to show a clear path for new participants to get engaged in the work of the different ICANN constituencies. This relates with ISSUE 17: Volunteer burnout.

16. ISSUE: Efficient Use of Resources

specific example about how the issue hampers the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model:

The ccNSO SOPC has questioned ICANN on several occasions about the efficient use of resources when it comes - for instance - to international engagement. ICANN staff responses were just sufficient but failed to address the long-standing item of cost optimisation and activities prioritisation.

17. ISSUE: Volunteer Burnout

specific example about how the issue hampers the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model:

Many ccNSO working groups and committees are somehow affected by it. It is becoming harder and harder to find skilled people who can dedicate not hours, but mostly days of their week to read, assess and provide input on policy and procedural documents.

This issue relates to ISSUE 01: Timing of decision-making: Our processes take too long

The ccNSO Council offers the following top 3 prioritisation of the items included on the issue list:

- Issue 02: Complexity
- Issue 01: Timing (at ICANN and community end)
- Issue 16: Efficient use of resources