**GNSO Council - Standing Committee on ICANN Budget and Operations Charter**

Adopted by GNSO Council on [date] *(Note, the Council plans to further review this proposed charter and assuming sufficient interest to form this standing committee, to consider it for adoption during one of its upcoming meetings)*

**Description and Objective**

The goal of the Standing Committee on ICANN Budget and Operations is to coordinate and facilitate dialogue to fully understand ICANN's strategic and operational planning and budgetary processes in preparation for the annual budgetary comments cycle as it relates to the GNSO Council’s remit.

The Committee is expected to develop and provide recommendations to the GNSO Council concerning positions to take and input to be provided to relevant public comment forums. GNSO SG/Cs may be invited to contribute to or support the position or input of the GNSO Council as recommended by the Standing Committee. Membership of the Committee is open only to GNSO Council members as elected by their respective Stakeholder Group or Constituency, although the participation of observers with relevant expertise (who may not be Council members) may be welcomed. Any formal decisions, however, are expected to be taken by the members of the Standing Committee.

**Chair, Members and Support**

Members of the Standing Committee will be comprised of volunteers from the GNSO Council and the nomination of the chair will be determined by said committee. Members will be listed on the community wiki. Stakeholder Group and Constituency members that are interested to follow the deliberations are encouraged to sign up as observers. The Standing Committee may decide to invite the input from observers as deemed appropriate (e.g. participate in mailing list discussions and/or calls), but formal decisions will only be taken by Council members assigned to the committee (see below).

Membership to the Standing Committee is based on a Council member’s term. Constitution of the Committee will be reviewed at each AGM (Annual General Meeting) as Council member terms expire and new members are elected by their respective groups. The Standing Committee may decide to solicit additional volunteers throughout the year as needed.

Support for the Standing Committee is provided by ICANN’s GNSO Support staff.

**Scope**

The Committee’s scope of activities will encompass monitoring and formulating positions that are submitted to the GNSO Council for approval with regards to ICANN’s Budget and Operating Planning cycle as it relates to its remit in managing the GNSO’s policy development process. Additionally, the committee will follow quarterly reporting activity of actual spend as it relates to the GNSO Council and the GNSO as a Decisional Participant to the Empowered Community. The Standing Committee cannot initiate any action or decision on its own – any and all recommendations will need to be submitted to the GNSO Council for its consideration.

The Standing Committee will provide regular feedback to the GNSO Council on the strategic and operational plan and any formulated positions.

In achieving its objective the Standing Committee will undertake, but is not limited to, the following activities:

* Disseminate and summarize information relevant to ICANN’s operational plan and budget;
* Formulate and prepare comments to be submitted as part of ICANN’s and PTI’s fiscal year budget cycle;
* Monitor and disseminate information pertaining to ICANN’s quarterly review as it pertains to actual spend versus planned budget;
* Inform or advise the GNSO Council should a rejection of the ICANN Budget be triggered;
* Organizing GNSO focused strategy and operations sessions at ICANN events as required.

**Review of Standing Committee Charter and Activities**

A review of this charter and activities will take place at each AGM (Annual General Meeting) or when considered necessary, for instance when the general ICANN process will change and affects the charter of the Standing Committee.

**Reporting**

The Chair of the Standing Committee will report regularly through email to the GNSO Council and provide a full report at the GNSO meetings held during the ICANN meetings regarding the activities of the Standing Committee.

**Decisions:**

The Standing Committee’s decisions will only be limited to agreement on which input and/or recommendations to put forward to the GNSO Council for formal consideration (for example, in the form of a draft of public comment). In assessing support for any such input and/or recommendations, the standard methodology for decision-making as outlined in the GNSO Working Group Guidelines is expected to be followed.