

## **Draft Framework for GNSO Project Planning – 2020 – 2022**

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In order to facilitate the GNSO Council's review and discussion of planning its workload in the months and years ahead, the GNSO Staff Support Team has developed the below overview of expected and known future GNSO work items, with further information on:

- Possible impact / consequences of not addressing the project in a timely manner;
- Discrete preparatory steps that could be taken to prepare kick off of the project;
- Expected resources need (staff, community)
- Possible timing

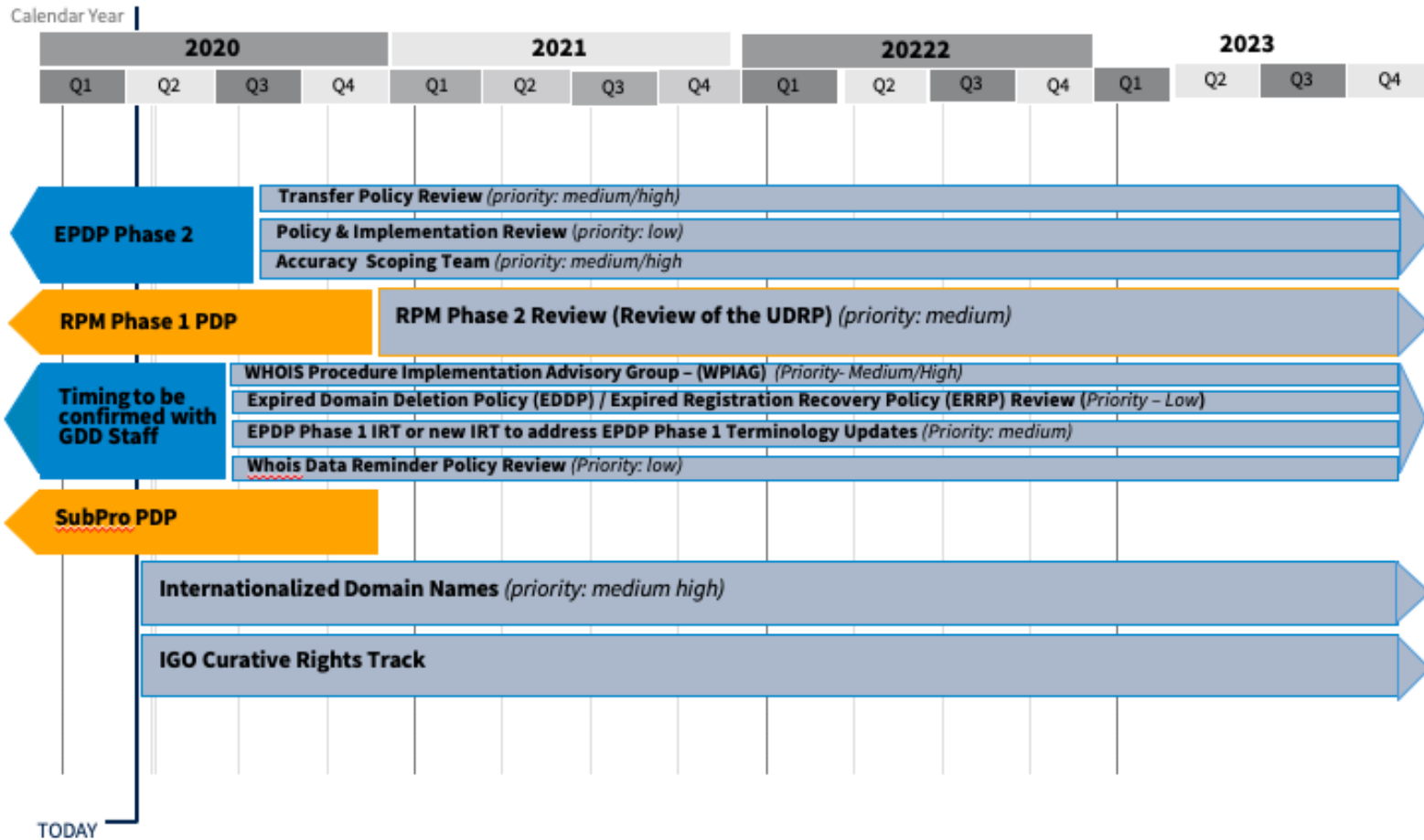
Taking into account the current workload as well as recent events, there is an assumption that until such time that one of the ongoing PDPs complete their work, no projects that require significant staff AND community support are launched.

### Note:

- Compared to the list of projects originally shared with the GNSO Council, this one also includes the suggested approach for dealing with the EPDP Recommendation #27 Wave 1 Report issues and the scoping effort on accuracy.
- DNS abuse and potential work on Thick Whois have not been included for now as it is not sufficiently clear at this stage what the next steps are in relation to those topics, if any.
- It does not anticipate further work that may need to be undertaken if existing working groups, IRTs or scoping teams are not able to address some of the issues identified in the EPDP Rec #27 wave 1 report.
- It does not include any work items that may result from recently completed or ongoing reviews such as SSR2, RDS2, ATRT3, Accountability-WS2.
- The Council will need to factor in that following the completion of the ongoing PDPs, IRTs are expected to be formed once the ICANN Board has adopted the policy recommendations, which will require resources (community and ICANN org).

High level Overview

# GNSO Project Planning



<b>Policy &amp; Implementation Recommendations Review</b>			
<b>Description</b>	The recommendations of the Policy & Implementation Working Group resulted in a number of new GNSO processes as well as guidelines, such as the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP), the GNSO Guidance Process (GGP), the GNSO Input Process (GIP), the Consensus Policy Implementation Framework (CPIF) and the Implementation Review Team (IRT) Principles and Guidelines. The GNSO Council resolved in June 2015 that a “review of these recommendations is carried out at the latest five years following their implementation to assess whether the recommendations have achieved what they set out to do and/or whether any further enhancements or changes are needed”.		
<b>Level of impact / consequences of not addressing in a timely manner</b>	<b>Low</b> – to date, of the new processes developed, only the EPDP has been put in practice (the first EPDP is still ongoing). The CPIF has already undergone a number of revisions (as foreseen in the original recommendations). The IRT Principles and Guidelines may benefit from a review as significant experience has been gained in operating and participating in IRTs, although there are no immediate concerns that need addressing.		
<b>Discrete preparatory steps that could be undertaken &amp; resources needed</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Following the completion of the EPDP, consider conducting a survey amongst EPDP members to ask about their experiences with the EPDP as well as possible improvements that could be contemplated. Based on the responses, Council to consider next steps. ()</li> <li>2. GNSO SG/Cs to provide input on the urgency of reviewing the IRT Principles and Guidelines. A next step could be to carry out a survey to request input from GDD as well as current and former IRT members concerning the functioning and operation of IRTs as well as possible updates to the IRT Principles and Guidelines.</li> <li>3. In relation to GGP and GIP, consider a discussion with Council/SG/Cs to raise awareness of these processes and better understand why these have never been used to date.</li> </ol>	<b>Resources needed</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. GNSO Staff Support Team to develop and carry out survey</li> <li>2. GNSO SG/C &amp; GDD staff input, GNSO Staff Support Team to develop and carry out survey</li> <li>3. Council/SG/C time for discussion</li> </ol>
<b>Possible timing</b>	Following completion of EPDP (?)		

Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs PDP – Phase 2 Review of UDRP (RPM)			
<b>Description</b>	The UDRP was the subject of a GNSO Issue Report, published in February 2011. The primary conclusion in the Final Issue Report, published in October 2011 and based on a review of the community comments received, was that a review of the UDRP should not be conducted until eighteen (18) months after the launch of the URS. A review could then be based on data derived from the use of the URS, since it is modeled on the UDRP. Subsequently, the GNSO Council decided to make the review of the UDRP phase 2 of its review of all Rights Protection Mechanisms in all gTLDs (with phase 1 focusing on the review of the RPMs developed for the 2012 new gTLD Program).		
<b>Level of impact / consequences of not addressing in a timely manner</b>	<b>Medium</b> – the review of the UDRP is long overdue. Although the 2011 Issue Report concluded that “the UDRP provides a “comparatively quick” and “effective” recourse for disputed second level domain name registrations in the globalized and trans-jurisdictional world of the DNS”, the recent changes to the availability of Whois information has resulted in some challenges that have also been recognized in the EPDP Team Rec #27 Wave 1 report.		
<b>Discrete preparatory steps that could be undertaken &amp; resources needed</b>	Creation of a scoping team to review the issues identified in the 2011 report as well as those identified in the Rec #27 Wave 1 Report to develop a proposed charter for this PDP, taking into account the recent PDP 3.0 improvements, especially those around scoping of the effort.	<b>Resources needed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GNSO Staff Support &amp; Community volunteers</li> </ul>
<b>Possible timing</b>	Following the completion of the RPM Phase 1 Final Report		

Review of the Transfer Policy	
<b>Description</b>	ICANN Org delivered the most recent version of the Transfer Policy Status Report (TPSR) to the GNSO Council on 22 April 2019. The TPSR provides details on the noted purposes of the Transfer Policy (formerly known as the Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy (IRTP)), an overview of the domain name transfer process, the impact of the Temporary Specification and the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) on the Transfer Policy, metrics related to the Transfer Policy, and a summary of the public comments and survey responses to the published TPSR. The GNSO Council formed a Transfer Policy Review Scoping Team to scope the work and advise the Council on next steps.
<b>Level of impact / consequences of not addressing in a timely manner</b>	<b>Medium/High</b> – recent changes as a result of the entry into force of the GDPR and the Temporary Specification have created an immediate impact on the transfer policy, resulting in deferral of compliance enforcement of the Form of Authorization (FOA) requirement “allowing the ICANN community time to consider the Gaining Registrar FOA requirement through the Transfer Policy review”. Other issues have also been identified in the

	EPDP Team Rec#27 Wave 1 Report. The Scoping Team is expected to put forward a recommendation to initiate a PDP by requesting a Preliminary Issue Report to commence a review of the issues identified in relation to the Transfer Policy.		
<b>Discrete preparatory steps that could be undertaken &amp; resources needed</b>	Preparation of Preliminary Issue Report (including charter)	<b>Resources needed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GNSO Staff Support</li> </ul>
<b>Possible timing</b>	Following completion of EPDP Phase 1 Final Report		

<b>Internationalized Domain Names</b>			
<b>Description</b>	The GNSO Council established a scoping team to study the full extent of the impacts from both the IDN Variant TLD Recommendations and the IDN Guidelines upon existing registry agreements and future applicants, to determine the range of issues and appropriate mechanisms needed to address them (e.g., policy development, direct engagement with ICANN Org, other). This scoping team is limited to the tasks of identifying the scope of the issues and making a recommendation to the GNSO Council on the best mechanism(s) for resolution.		
<b>Level of impact / consequences of not addressing in a timely manner</b>	<p><b>Medium/high</b> - The scoping team has identified, in its <a href="#">Final Report</a>, two tracks of issues that may have different levels of urgency to address. Track 1 consists of legal/operational issues related to the IDN Implementation Guidelines 4.0, including applicability of RZ-LGR, different requirements in IDN Implementation Guidelines and Registry Agreement, and concerns related to IDN tables. Since the Contracted Parties are bound to adhere to the IDN Implementation Guidelines, not addressing these legal/operational issues would delay the process of implementing the latest Guidelines and increase potential security/stability risks in the DNS. Track 2 consists of policy issues related to IDN Variant TLD management and the mechanism to update the IDN Implementation Guidelines in the future. Track 2 issues have potential impact on other policies, procedures, and agreements, including the string requirements, string similarity reviews, objection processes, Registry and Registrar agreements, and some domain dispute resolution procedures. Similar to Track 1 issues, not addressing Track 2 issues would also increase potential security/stability risks in the DNS. In addition, consultation with GDD staff indicates that Track 2 issues should be ideally addressed before the launch of the next round of new gTLDs in order to effectively mitigate those security/stability risks and facilitate the process of delegating IDN variant gTLDs into the Root Zone.</p>		
<b>Discrete preparatory steps that could be undertaken &amp; resources needed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Track 1 issues: Initiation of a Contracted Party/GDD working/negotiation/implementation team.</li> </ul>	<b>Resources needed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GNSO Staff Support</li> <li>GDD Staff</li> <li>Community volunteers</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Track 2 issues: Preparation of a draft charter for a future EPDP Team, taking into account the recent PDP 3.0 improvements.</li> </ul>		
<b>Possible timing</b>	For Track 1 issues, prior to ICANN68 (?), but also take into account GDD staff and community volunteers' availability. For Track 2, prioritize the drafting of the charter as a preparatory step.		

**WHOIS Procedure Implementation Advisory Group – (WPIAG)**

<b>Description</b>	The ICANN Procedure For Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Law Implementation Advisory Group (WHOIS Procedure IAG) is tasked to provide the GNSO Council with recommendations on how to address the comments and input that has been received in response to the public comment forum on the Revised ICANN Procedure for Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Law: Process and Next Steps. The GNSO Council adopted the charter for the ICANN Procedure For Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Law Implementation Advisory Group (WHOIS Procedure IAG) during its meeting on 22 February 2018. Per the Council's discussions, noting the workload and activities that may impact the IAG's work, staff is refraining from circulating the call for volunteers to the GNSO Stakeholder Groups). Following discussion at the 13 March 2019 Council meeting, the Council agreed to defer further discussion of the WPIAG for 12 months but reserves the right to revisit the deferral period at any time.		
<b>Level of impact / consequences of not addressing in a timely manner</b>	<b>Medium/high</b> – a number of issues were identified that still appear relevant. With more and more countries developing and adopting privacy legislation, it appears that this is still a relevant topic, even more so once the EPDP Phase 2 completes its work?		
<b>Discrete preparatory steps that could be undertaken &amp; resources needed</b>	Considering community bandwidth, consider ICANN Org to develop a proposal for possible modifications to reflect experiences to date with, for example, the data retention waiver procedure.	<b>Resources needed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GDD Staff</li> </ul>
<b>Possible timing</b>	Dependent on GDD Staff availability		

**Request EPDP Phase 1 IRT or establish new IRT to address EPDP Phase 1 Terminology Updates**

<b>Description</b>	For all policies identified in the wave 1 report – note, these changes would be solely focused on ensuring consistency in terminology such as RDS instead of Whois, or Registration Data instead of Whois data, as well as the removal of references to administrative contact. This is consistent with Recommendation #27 of the EPDP Phase 1 Final Report which noted that “The EPDP Team recommends that as part of the implementation of these policy recommendations, updates are made (...) to ensure consistency with these policy recommendations.
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<b>Level of impact / consequences of not addressing in a timely manner</b>	<b>Medium</b> – not making these updates may create confusion and possible enforceability issues.		
<b>Discrete preparatory steps that could be undertaken &amp; resources needed</b>	Develop redline of all identified policies with proposed changes to ensure consistency in terminology with EPDP Phase 1 recommendations.	<b>Resources needed</b>	▪ GDD Staff/ Legal
<b>Possible timing</b>	During public comment period on EPDP Phase 1 policy implementation public comment period, or following finalization of EPDP Phase 1 implementation (dependent on GDD Staff Support / legal workload and availability)		

<b>Expired Domain Deletion Policy (EDDP) / Expired Registration Recovery Policy (ERRP) Review</b>			
<b>Description</b>	The EDDP covers various registrar practices for deletion of a domain name registration where a registrant has not renewed. The ERRP is intended to help align registrant expectations with registrar practices by establishing certain minimum communications requirements, making renewal and redemption of registrations uniformly available in prescribed circumstances, and through the creation and promotion of registrant educational materials. According to the project list, the ERRP review has been slated for FY2021, no specific review has been planned yet for the EDDP. However, for both, a number of issues that require further consideration have been identified in the EPDP Rec #27 Wave 1 Report.		
<b>Level of impact / consequences of not addressing in a timely manner</b>	<b>Low</b> – no significant issues have been reported to date with either of these policies although the EPDP Rec #27 Wave 1 Report identifies a number of areas where clarification may be needed as a result of GDPR / EPDP Phase 1 recommendations.		
<b>Discrete preparatory steps that could be undertaken &amp; resources needed</b>	As these policies cover related topics, request GDD to prepare a Policy Status Report (first step of a policy review)	<b>Resources needed</b>	▪ GDD Staff
<b>Possible timing</b>	Dependent on GDD Staff availability		

<b>Whois Data Reminder Policy</b>	
<b>Description</b>	At least annually, a registrar must present to the registrant the current Whois information for each domain name registration, and remind the registrant that provision of false Whois information can be grounds for cancellation of the domain name registration. Registrants must review their Whois data, and make any corrections.

<b>Level of impact / consequences of not addressing in a timely manner</b>	<b>Low</b> - no significant issues have been reported to date with this policy although the EPDP Rec #27 Wave 1 Report identifies a number of areas where clarification may be needed as a result of GDPR / EPDP Phase 1 recommendations.		
<b>Discrete preparatory steps that could be undertaken &amp; resources needed</b>	Request GDD to prepare a Policy Status Report (first step of a policy review)	<b>Resources needed</b>	▪ GDD Staff
<b>Possible timing</b>	Dependent on GDD Staff availability		

<b>Accuracy Scoping Team</b>			
<b>Description</b>	Council acknowledged the importance and complexity of the topic and agreed to consider possible next steps, including establishing a small group/scoping team to establish a framework to address the issue of registrant data accuracy across policy/contracts/procedures.		
<b>Level of impact / consequences of not addressing in a timely manner</b>	<b>Medium/high</b> – a number of groups have indicated the importance of better understanding the implications of GDPR on existing accuracy requirements and procedures to determine what steps, if any, should be undertaken to address those implications.		
<b>Discrete preparatory steps that could be undertaken &amp; resources needed</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Request ICANN org to document existing accuracy requirements and impact</li> <li>2. Form scoping team</li> </ol>	<b>Resources needed</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ICANN org support</li> <li>2. GNSO Staff Support / Community volunteers</li> </ol>
<b>Possible timing</b>	For 1, dependent on ICANN org availability. For 2, after delivery of EPDP Phase 2 Final Report.		