

2.2 Officer Elections: Chair and Vice-Chairs

The GNSO Council shall select the GNSO Chair and two Vice-Chairs as follows:

- a. The GNSO Chair shall be elected by a 60 percent vote of each house.
- b. Each house will be allowed to nominate one candidate for GNSO Council Chair. Each house is responsible for determining how to nominate its candidate. A candidate for GNSO Council Chair does not need to be a member of a house, but must be a current or incoming member of the GNSO Council. Should a Chair be elected from outside of the houses that Chair will be a non-voting Chair.
 - i. All ballots will include the “none of the above” option. In the event that a 60 percent vote of each house selects the “none of the above” option, each house will commence a new nomination period of not longer than 15 days. An election for the new nominees will be scheduled for no sooner than 30 days after the unsuccessful vote.
 - ii. In the case of a tie for the most votes between the two candidates, or between a candidate and “none of above,” a second election will be held no sooner than 30 days. The candidates shall remain the same for this second election. In the case this second election also results in a tie, each house will commence a new nomination period of not longer than 15 days. An election for the new nominees will be rescheduled for no sooner than 30 days after the unsuccessful vote.
 - iii. The leading candidate will be defined as the one with the highest score. The score is calculated by adding together the voting percentages attained from each house. The highest percentage attainable in each house is 100. Thus, the maximum score a candidate can achieve is 200 as a result of attaining 100 percent of the votes from the contracted party house and 100 percent from the non-contracted party house (100 percent + 100 percent = score of 200). In case neither candidate reaches the 60 percent of each house threshold, a second ballot will be held between the leading candidate and “none of the above.”
 - iv. In case neither candidate reaches the 60 percent of each house threshold and the candidates do not tie, a second runoff ballot will be held between the leading candidate and “none of the above.”
 - v. If the single candidate does not reach the 60 percent of each house threshold in the runoff ballot, then each house will commence a new nomination period of not longer than 15 days. An election for the new nominees will be rescheduled for no sooner than 30 days after the unsuccessful runoff ballot.
- c. Each house shall select a Council Vice-Chair from within its respective house.
- d. A Chair may not be a member of the same Stakeholder Group of either of the Vice-Chairs.
- e. The Chair and Vice-Chairs shall retain their votes (if any) in their respective houses (if any).
- f. In the event that the GNSO Council has not elected a GNSO Council Chair by the end of the previous Chair’s term, the Vice-Chairs will serve as Interim GNSO Co-

Chairs to jointly oversee the new Chair election and conduct Council business until a successful election can be held. In the event that one or both Vice-Chairs' terms ends concurrently with the term of the previous Chair, the procedures described in Section 2.2.1 below shall apply.

- g. The Council shall inform the Board and the Community appropriately and post the election results on the GNSO website within 2 business days following each election and runoff ballot, whether successful or unsuccessful.

2.2.1 Procedures for a Situation Where a New GNSO Chair Has Not Been Elected by the End of the Previous Chair's Term

The following are procedures to address possible election scenarios relating to the gap to be addressed when the Vice Chairs' terms end at the same time as that of the Chair, and no Chair is conclusively elected by that time.

1. As described in Section 2.2(f) above, in the case where no Chair is conclusively elected, the two Vice Chairs shall jointly oversee the Chair election and conduct Council business until such time as a new Chair is elected.
2. In the case where one Vice-Chair's terms on the Council ends at the same time as the Chair, and no Chair is conclusively elected, the House with a vacant Vice-Chair position shall designate an Interim Vice Chair from within its House to join the continuing Vice Chair to oversee the Chair election and conduct Council business. The deadline for the vacant House to designate its Interim Vice Chair is no later than 23h59 Coordinate Universal Time (UTC) 14 calendar days following the Council meeting at which no Chair was conclusively elected. Should the House with the vacant Vice-Chair position fail to appoint an interim Vice-Chair within the allotted time period, the continuing Vice-Chair from the other House will serve as an Interim Vice-Chair alone until a new Chair is conclusively elected.
3. In the case where both Vice-Chairs' terms on the Council end at the same time as the Chair, and no Chair is conclusively elected, the following procedure will apply: Each House shall designate an incoming or continuing Councilor from within its respective House to temporarily fill the role of Vice Chair on an interim basis, not as an elected Vice Chair. The deadline for each House to designate its Interim Vice Chair is no later than 23h59 Coordinate Universal Time (UTC) 14 calendar days following the Council meeting at which no Chair was conclusively elected. The Designated Interim Vice Chairs will co-chair the Chair election and conduct Council business until such time as a Chair is conclusively elected. Once the Chair election is completed their service in those roles would end. Candidates for GNSO Chair will not be eligible to serve as Designated Interim Vice Chairs, to avoid potential conflicts of interest. Designated Interim Vice Chairs are not prohibited from being appointed as continuing Vice Chairs by their respective Houses following a successful Chair election. Should the House with the vacant Vice-Chair position fail to designate an interim Vice-Chair within the allotted time period, the Designated Interim Vice-Chair from the other House will serve as an Interim Vice-Chair alone until a new Chair is conclusively elected.
4. If both Houses should fail to temporarily fill the role of Vice Chair on an interim basis [within the allotted time period], the non-voting NCA will be designated the Interim Chair to oversee the Chair election and conduct Council business until such time as a Chair is conclusively elected.

Table 1: Chair Election Timeline

| <u>Not Later Than:</u> | <u>Activity Commences:</u> | <u>Time Available:</u> |
|--|---|------------------------|
| <u>Summer ICANN Meeting (Varies based on meeting date)</u> | <u>Announce Proposed Procedure and Timeline</u> | <u>1 Day</u> |
| <u>T – 60 Days</u> | <u>NomCom Selectees Announced</u> | <u>1 Day</u> |
| | <u>SG/C New Council Members Announced</u> | <u>1 Day</u> |
| | <u>House Nominee Selection</u> | <u>30 Days</u> |
| <u>T – 30 Days</u> | <u>Houses Submit Nominees</u> | <u>1 Day</u> |
| <u>T – 18 Days</u> | <u>Candidates Submit Statements</u> | <u>12 Days</u> |
| <u>T – 3 Days</u> | <u>Candidate Meetings</u> | <u>2 Days</u> |
| <u>T</u> | <u>Election Held at Annual General Meeting</u> | <u>1 Day</u> |
| <u>T + 2 Days</u> | <u>Council informs the Board and the Community and posts election results on the GNSO website</u> | <u>2 Days</u> |