

Transfer Policy Review - Project Change Request

Current Structure

A phased approach:

Phase 1(a):

- Form of Authorization (including Rec. 27, Wave 1 FOA issues)
- AuthInfo Codes
- Denying (NACKing) Transfers

Phase 1(b):

- Change of Registrant (including Rec. 27, Wave 1 Change of Registrant issues)

Phase 2:

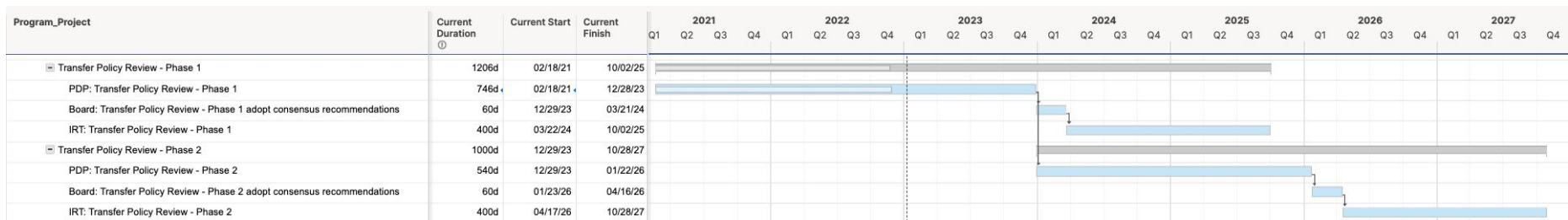
- Transfer Emergency Action Contact
- Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy (including Rec. 27, Wave 1 TDRP issues)
- Reversing transfers
- ICANN-approved transfers

As a reminder, the phased approach initially seemed logical for two reasons:

- The phased approach is consistent with PDP 3.0 Guidelines, Enhancement 11, which provides “a PDP should have a narrow scope and, in those cases where a subject is broad, it needs to be broken into manageable pieces.”
- It also allowed for the possibility of implementation work for Phase 1 recommendations in parallel with Phase 2 policy development work.

Current Milestones

Milestone	Target Date
Phase 1A Initial Report	June 2022 (complete)
Phase 1B Initial Report	March 2023
Combined Phase 1 Final Report	August 2023
Phase 2 Initial Report	TBD
Phase 2 Final Report	January 2026 (approximate)



Why is a change needed?

- The Working Group identified dependencies between the Phase 2 and Phase 1 work. Specifically, the working group will need to make substantial progress on Phase 2 topics TDRP and/or TEAC before it can finalize Phase 1A and 1B recommendations pertaining to inter-registrar and inter-registrant transfers. The current project plan anticipates two fully independent phases, but this is not workable in practice.
- Phase 1A preliminary recommendations have been substantially revised following the public comment period and may be revised further following discussion of TDRP and/or TEAC. Additional community input through public comment is warranted on these revisions.
- Phase 1A is behind schedule due to a public comment extension and the need to consider a number of substantive comments, which has also resulted in Phase 1B work falling behind schedule. A work plan adjustment would be needed for this reason alone, independent of the above points.

Project Status & Health	
Project_Status	Project_Health
Behind Schedule	At-Risk

Proposed Change

Combine Phase 1 and Phase 2 into a single body of work, with a combined Initial Report and Final Report covering all topics. Reorder the sequence in which topics are addressed by the PDP to account for dependencies between topics.

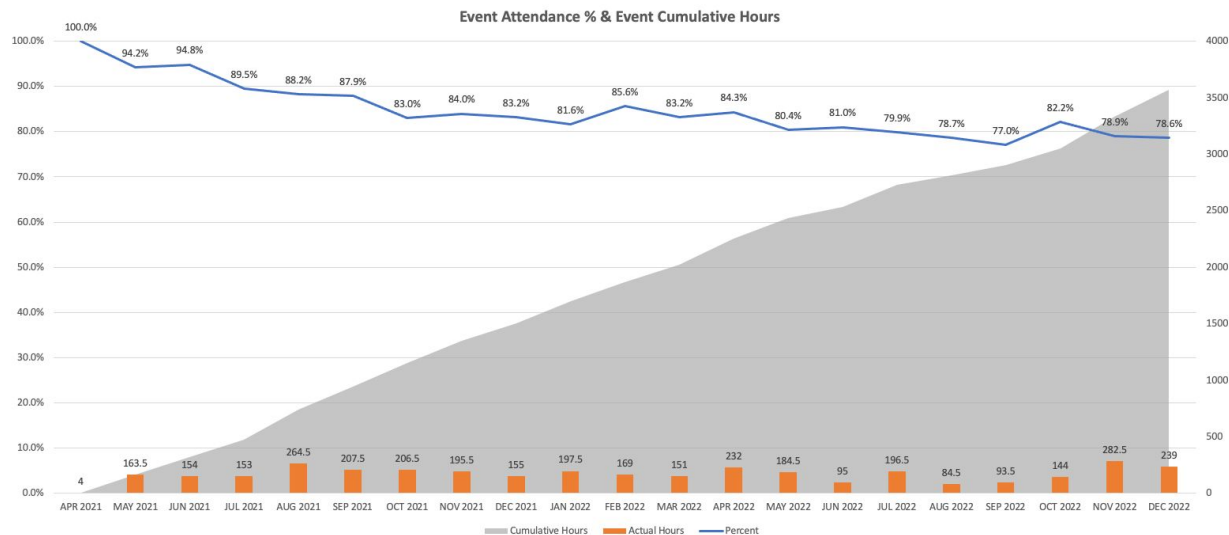
Milestone	Target Date
Phase 1A Initial Report	June 2022 (complete)
Combined Phase 1A (revised), 1B, and 2 Initial Report (75 day public comment)	August 2024
Combined Phase 1A (revised), 1B, and 2 Final Report	February 2025

Benefits of Proposed Change

- Allows the working group to deliberate on all topics iteratively and consider the dependencies between recommendations in different topic areas.
- Allows the community to review all draft recommendations as a single package, taking into account dependencies between recommendations in different topic areas.
- A single, extended public comment period of the combined Initial Report will allow ample opportunity for the community to review the package of draft recommendations and provide input.
- Fewer public comment periods and combination of outputs will allow the working group to reduce the overall timeline of the PDP.
- Reduces burden on the volunteers, as the PDP no longer anticipates a Phase 1 IRT in parallel with Phase 2 policy development. In addition, only a single IRT will now be needed.

Additional Considerations

- The draft revision of the work plan anticipates that the PDP will conclude in Q1 2025. Some working group members may not be able to commit for the full length of the PDP.
- The working group may want to consider if there is a logical point in the PDP in which groups are invited to adjust their membership.
- Given that participation in the PDP is already uneven in terms of both membership and attendance (e.g. real-time participation) and attendance overall is trending downward, this may be a good moment for groups to consider how they can best ensure sustained engagement through the life of the PDP.



Next Steps

- PDP update and preview of the Project Change Request during 19 January GNSO Council meeting.
- Wrap up discussion on Phase 1A topics by end of January.
- Briefly revisit status of Phase 1B discussions, including any touchpoints with Phase 2 Topics in early February.
- Begin Phase 2 deliberations in early February.
- GNSO Council vote on Project Change Request during 16 February GNSO Council meeting.