Report on Independent Review Schedule

Update on GNSO Improvement Process

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Independent Reviews - Purpose

- Bylaws call for periodic, independent review of ICANN's SO's, Councils, Advisory Committees (except GAC) and NomCom.

- Intended to ensure independent examination ICANN's structure and operations.

- Part of ICANN's commitment to its evolution and improvement.

Independent Reviews - Direction

- Conducted in an objective way by independent evaluator.

- Under direction of the Board Governance Committee and agreement of the Board through Terms of Reference.

- With opportunities for public review and comment.

Independent Reviews - Elements

- First reviews: GNSO Council, December 2004; GNSO, September 2006.

- Elements of GNSO review included:
  - Establishing terms of reference (TOR)
  - Issuing request for proposals (RFP)
  - Selecting consultant
  - Managing and providing information for consultant's work
  - Arranging for information sharing and briefings on final report.

BGC Review Schedule

- Considered age, responsibilities, activities of each entity to be reviewed, and cost and operational limitations for managing/implementing reviews.

- Recommended increasing the budget for each review to ensure resources match needs for professional consultants and review activities.

- Agreed to comprehensive schedule for all reviews, to be reviewed by BGC for progress and potential adjustment.

- Agreed to add a review of the Board to the review queue.

- Review schedule is on Board's agenda for agreement.

BGC Review Schedule

- Nominating Committee – estimated launch December 2006
- At-Large Advisory Committee – estimated launch February 2007
- DNS Root Server System Advisory Committee – estimated launch July 2007
- Board – estimated launch October 2007
- Security and Stability Advisory Committee – estimated launch January 2008
- ccNSO Supporting Organisation – estimated launch July 2008
- Address Supporting Organisation – estimated launch December 2008

GNSO Review – Terms of Reference

- Addressed:
  - Representativeness
  - Effectiveness
  - Transparency
  - Compliance
- Used:
  - Operational Analysis, Statistics
  - Quantifying Focus Areas
  - Mapping Relationships and Interactions
  - Capturing and Mapping Perceptions

GNSO Review – Recommendations

24 recommendations in four areas:

1. Changes need to enhance representativeness of Council, Constituencies;

2. GNSO operations need to be more visible, transparent to wider range of stakeholders;

3. GNSO structures need to be more flexible, adaptable, able to respond more directly to changing stakeholder needs;

4. Changes in Council's operations needed to enhance its ability to reach genuinely consensus positions.

Report posted for public comment at:

<http://www.icann.org/announcements/gnso-review-report-sep06.pdf>

GNSO Review – Improvement Process

- Board Governance Committee responsible for approving a "GNSO Improvement Process" for Board agreement.

- BGC considering approaches for development and adoption of improvements to GNSO's policy activities, structure, operations, and communications.

- BGC in dialogue with GNSO Council, constituency members, and community and will continue its deliberations.