#### Newsletter, June 2016

# The ICANN GNSO Business Constituency

# ICANNI56 POLICY VICTOR 27-30 June 2016

#### News from the Chair

#### Dear ICANN Community Members:

The Business Constituency (BC) strives to ensure that ICANN's activities and policies create a stable, secure, and open Internet for the benefit of free expression and commerce. Maintenance of the underlying Domain Name System is of paramount importance to business users of the Internet. To be sure, with regard to the ongoing development of the commercial Internet, ICANN is where it begins.

With the momentous activity from ICANN55

in Marrakech now behind us, we turn to ICANN56 and embark on a new journey, as we take this opportunity to devote our time and energy to the multi-faceted policy development processes. Indeed, this year's inaugural "Policy Forum" is of great importance to the BC. We have numerous members who are active participants in a variety of Policy Development Process Working Groups, including those concerning WHOIS improvements, new gTLD implementation review, and rights protection mechanisms for all gTLDs.

In addition, ICANN56 stands as the first official ICANN meeting for its new CEO, Göran Marby, and the BC welcomes him to the community. We look forward to working with him and benefiting from his experience, as ICANN begins a new era in its evolution.

I wish you all a fruitful meeting in Helsinki.

#### Warmly,

Chris Wilson Chair, ICANN Business Constituency

# For New BC Members

#### **By Angie Graves**



As a new member of the Business Constituency (BC), it may be easy to forget that everyone in the BC today was once a new member. For me, it was 2012 when my membership application to the BC was accepted and I became a new member.

The experience of each new member is at least slightly different, but it makes sense to think that at least most new members are interested in understanding how to receive the greatest benefit from their BC membership, although what constitutes value for new members may come in a variety of definitions.

Understanding how to get the greatest benefit from your BC membership may take some time. Depending on the path taken to arrive as a new BC member, you may have familiarity with one or more working groups, or with Fellowship or another program. It is helpful to have an understanding of ICANN from more than one perspective; new members would be well-served by eventually interacting with other groups and constituencies. As for me, my participation began in 2010 attending meetings of a working group as an observer.

Seasoned members of ICANN may say that the key to unlocking the value and benefit of a BC membership is to participate. Member participation in processes, on committees, crossconstituency working groups, and at ICANN meetings are the actions that breathe life into the organization, and are the actions that create the value sought by many of our constituency members.

#### But how and where and when is it best to participate?

Part of the answer to this question is dictated by members' own abilities and interests. But for any new member Contributing your perspective on an issue is one way to participate, but other ways to consider are serving in leadership and officer roles.

wanting to participate in the process, there are many opportunities.

The BC hosts regular constituency meetings every two weeks on Thursdays, mainly to plan for future participation, and to review current and recent progress and past actions by the BC, along with other constituency business. The entire BC membership is invited to attend these meetings, which take place via your choice of telephone or computer or both. A new member following along with these calls will have

# **Policy Perspective**

#### By Steve DelBianco, Vice Chair for Policy Coordination

a good ongoing knowledge of the work of the BC as a whole. And members unable to join in real time can keep abreast by listening to the recordings of the meetings or by reading the transcripts.

Knowing whether to join in on a discussion in the early days as a new member can be a big question.

Some people feel more comfortable participating after understanding more about the organization, getting acquainted with one or more current members, or attending an ICANN meeting. There is no reason for a BC member to wait before joining meetings or participating in them, but it makes sense to have a grasp on the topic at hand, and the BC as a whole, before jumping in.

Contributing your perspective on an issue is one way to participate, but other ways to consider are serving in leadership and officer roles. Especially over the longterm, it is a must-do for many members.

#### **Get Oriented**

The ICANN community as a whole has a distinct culture, and the BC has its own distinct culture as a subset of ICANN. Orientation comes from learning how the organization operates, which may come from participation, reading and research, communication with other members, or a combination of these.

A great deal of useful information about the BC can be found at our website at **http://www.bizconst.org**. And it also happens to be another place a new member can participate, helping to provide updates and content. Also, learn more about the BC's participation in the context of ICANN at www.icann.org. And be sure that you are on the mailing list to receive BC member emails.

Speaking for the BC's members, we are all glad to have you as a new member, and we look forward to working together with all our new members. Welcome!



When we gather in Helsinki, BC members will be engaged in policy discussions for some issues that are wrapping-up, others that are underway, and still more issues that are just about to begin.

Those last two categories represent the best areas for new BC members to get involved and get up to speed.

In the coming months, BC will participate on reviews of the recent expansion of generic top-level domains (gTLDs). That will prepare you for future work on planning the next round of gTLD expansion, too.

Later this year, we'll begin formal reviews of ICANN's attention to Security, Stability, and Resiliency, and about whether Whois is delivering access to accurate information about domain



Steve DelBianco, Vice Chair for Policy Coordination

registrants.

Beginning in Helsinki, BC members can join with several new working groups to develop accountability enhancements for what is called 'Work Stream 2' of the IANA transition. That will include work on transparency improvements and a new framework for respecting human rights.

There's also a Work Stream 2 project to examine whether ICANN's advisory committees (ACs) and supporting organizations (SOs) are accountable to the global stakeholders they are designed to represent.

The BC remains in the top spot as a contributor to ICANN's comment process. That's partly because we care deeply about ICANN's impact on business registrants and users. But it's mainly because BC members work together so effectively in drafting comments and representing our interests in ICANN meetings.

Come join us in Helsinki and become part of something special – the ICANN Business Constituency.

# ICANN Multistakeholder Organizational Chart

Representatives on these charts are up to date as of the end of the Policy Meeting, ICANN56. Note: Officers for the GNSO Council are elected at the close of ICANN57.



#### **ICANN Board of Directors**

**Top row Left to Right:** Göran Marby– President & CEO, Steve Crocker – Chair (NomCom), Bruce Tonkin – Vice Chair (GNSO), Rinalia Abdul Rahim (At-Large), Cherine Chalaby (NomCom), Chris Disspain (ccNSO), Asha Hemrajani (NomCom), Ron da Silva (ASO), Markus Kummer (GNSO), Bruno Lanvin (NomCom)

**2nd row Left to Right:** Erika Mann (NomCom), Rafael Lito Ibarra (NomCom), Lousewies van der Laan (NomCom), George Sadowsky (NomCom), Thomas Schneider (GAC), Mike Silber (ccNSO), Kuo-Wei Wu (ASO), Ram Mohan (SSAC Liaison), Jonne Soininen (IETF Liaison), Suzanne Woolf (RSSAC Liaison)

#### Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) (see following page)

James Bladel (Chair) Heather Forrest (V. Chair) Donna Austin (V. Chair)

#### Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

Katrina Sataki (Chair) Byron Holland (V. Chair) Demi Getschko (V. Chair)

#### Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

Louie Lee (Chair) Ricardo Patara (V. Chair) Filiz Yilmaz (V. Chair)

#### Government Advisory Committee (GAC)

Thomas Schneider – Switzerland (Chair) Olga Cavalli – Argentina (V. Chair) Gema Campillos – Spain (V. Chair) Henri Kassen – Namibia (V. Chair) Wanawit Ahkuputra – Thailand (V. Chair)

#### Security & Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

Patrik Fältström (Chair)

#### Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)

Brad Verd (Co-Chair) Tripti Sinha (Co-Chair)

#### At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Alan Greenberg (Chair) Tijani Ben Jemaa (V. Chair) Leon Sanchez (V. Chair)

#### **Technical Liaison Group (TLG)**

Bilel Jamoussi Wendy Seltzer Daniel Dardaillier Warren Kumari

#### Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)

Jari Arkko (Chair)

#### Nominating Committee 2016

Stephane Van Gelder (Chair) Wolfgang Kleinwächter (Associate Chair) Hans Petter Holen (Chair-Elect)

#### Ombudsman

Chris LaHatte

# GNSO Stakeholder Groups, Constituencies & Council

The GNSO Council is responsible for managing the policy development process of the GNSO.

#### **Contracted Party House Councilors**

#### Registry Stakeholder Group

Donna Austin, V. Chair GNSO Council (APPAC) Keith Drazek (NA) Rubens Kuhl (LAC) Donna Austin (AAPAC)

#### Nominating Committee Appointees

Johan (Julf) Helsingius, Voting Non-Contracted Party House (EU)

Hsu Phen Valerie Tan, Voting Contracted Party House (AAPAC)

Carlos Raul Gutiérrez, Non-Voting (LAC)

#### Registrar Stakeholder Group

James Bladel, GNSO Council Chair (NA) Volker Greimann (EU) Jennifer Gore (NA)

#### Liaison and Observer

Olivier Crepin Leblond, ALAC Liaison (EU) Patrick Myles, ccNSO Observer (APPAC)

#### **Non-Contracted Party House Councilors**

#### Commercial Stakeholder Group

Commercial and Business Users

Susan Kawaguchi (NA) Philip Corwin (NA)

Intellectual Property Interests Heather Forrest, V. Chair

GNSO Council (AAPAC) Paul McGrady (NA)

#### Internet Service and Connection Providers

Tony Harris (LAC) Wolf-Ulrich Knoben (EU)

# Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group

David Cake (AAPAC) Stefania Milan (NA) Amr Elsadr (AF) Marilia Maciel (LAC) Edward Morris (NA) Stephanie Perrin (NA)

#### **Contracted Party House**

#### Registry Stakeholders Group

Paul Diaz (Chair) Samantha Demetriou (V. Chair Administration) Stephane Van Gelder (V. Chair, Policy) Reg Levy (Treasurer) Cherie Stubbs (Secretariat)

# \* The groups' officers are omitted here

#### Registrar Stakeholders Group

Michele Neylon (Chair) Graeme Bunton (V. Chair) Darcy Southwell (Secretary) Paul Goldstone (Treasurer) Cristin Donahue (Secretariat)

#### Intellectual Property Constituency

Greg Shatan (President) Steve Metalitz (Vice President) Lori Schulman (Treasurer) Fabricio Vayra (Secretary) Kiran Malancharuvil (Participation Coordinator)

#### Commercial Stakeholders Group\*

**Non-Contracted Party House** 

#### **Business Constituency**

Chris Wilson (Chair) Steve DelBianco (V. Chair Policy Coordination) Jimson Olufuye (V. Chair Finance & Operations) CSG Representative:

Cheryl Miller

#### Internet Service & Connection Providers Constituency

Tony Holmes (Chair) Wolf-Ulrich Knoben (V. Chair) Alain Bidron (Excomm)

#### Non-Commercial Stakeholders Group\*

#### Non-Commercial Users Constituency

Rafik Dammak (Chair) Grace Githaiga (Africa) Peter Green (AAPAC) Farzaneh Badii (Europe) Milton Mueller (N. America) João Carlos R. Caribe (LAC)

#### Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency

Rudi Vansnick (Chair) Klaus Stoll (V. Chair) Sam Lanfranco (Policy Committee Chair) Olévié Kouami (Communications Committee Chair) Joan Kerr (Membership Committee Chair) Martin P. Silva Valent (Secretary)

The GNSO Policy Development Support Team supports the GNSO community's development of bottom-up, consensus policies and guidelines that help advance the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems. David Olive, Steve Chan, Glen de Saint Gery, Gisella Gruber, Julie Hedlund, Lars Hoffman, Robert Hoggarth, Susie Johnson, Marika Konings, Nathalie Peregrine, Carlos Reyes, Steve Sheng, Mary Wong

### Report from the BC's Councilors on the GNSO Council

#### By Philip S. Corwin and Susan Kawaguchi

ICANN's Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) includes all parts of the ICANN community involved with generic top level domains (gTLDs), and its Council sets policy for them. The Business Constituency (BC) is part of the Commercial Stakeholders Group (CSG), which comprises one-half of the Non-Contracted Parties House (NCPH) side of the Council. The BC's current Councilors representing its views on Council are Susan Kawaguchi of Facebook and Philip Corwin, head of Virtualaw LLC and Counsel to the Internet Commerce Association.



Like most of the ICANN community, the Council has been closely involved with the work of the CWG-Stewardship and the CCWG-Accountability. Most Councilors - including the BC's - participated in various aspects of this process. The end result of this two-track process was the development and delivery of a coherent package of recommendations for transitioning oversight of the IANA root zone functions from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce, to the global multistakeholder community; in conjunction with new measures to make ICANN's Board and staff more accountable to its community while preventing governmental takeover or

domination of ICANN.

Following completion of the CWG's work, the CCWG's final Accountability Proposal received final signoff by ICANN's Chartering Organizations, including the GNSO, at the ICANN55 meeting that took place in Marrakech, Morocco in early March. Last August the NTIA announced that it was extending the IANA contract by one additional year, through September 30, 2016, to allow sufficient time for these processes to be concluded and the transition to take place on or about October 1st.

Following approval, the final transition and accountability package was sent on to ICANN's Board, which in turn approved and transmitted them to the NTIA, which is now conducting its own review against its stated principles and requirements for the transition. And the ICANN community is close to completing its review of draft Bylaws revisions incorporating all the transition and accountability proposals.

Still, the work is hardly over. Further implementation of Work Stream 1 recommendations, including finalization of the new Bylaws and chartering of the new Post-Transition ICANN (PTI) and Empowered Community (EC) entities, will proceed concurrently with the launch of the secondary yet still important issues relegated to Work Stream 2. These include assurance of greater transparency in ICANN decision-making and operations. BC members will continue to discuss these ongoing processes and proposals on a regular basis, and Susan and Philip will convey the BC's consensus views to the full Council.

BC members will next gather together at ICANN56, taking place in late June in Helsinki, Finland. This will be the first "B meeting" under ICANN's revised meeting strategy. This mid-year meeting is shorter than customary practice (just four days) and designed to be held in smaller, regional venues and to facilitate intense focus on policy review and development. BC members are looking forward to testing whether this new format achieves its goals.



# Other issues on which the Council is currently engaged include:

• Overseeing implementation of the recently completed PDP on accreditation standards for privacy and proxy services providers associated with registrars, to ensure that registrants' privacy is maintained but that rights holders can convey messages and obtain registrant data in appropriate circumstances.

 Assuring that International Governmental Organizations (IGOs) have adequate access to the Uniform Domain-Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) and Uniform Rapid Suspension System (URS) rights protection mechanisms, or to a similar arbitration process, to prevent abuse of their names and acronyms in domain names. BC Councilor Philip Corwin is Co-Chair of this WG.

• Determining what usage should be made of the more than \$100 million in "last resort" auction proceeds for contested new gTLDs. The Council has established a CCWG to grapple with this issue and ICANN's Board has signaled that it will give serious review to community input. functioning of a liaison from the Council to the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC). This work has included implementation of an "early look" system for gathering GAC feedback on developing issues, with the aim of better integrating governmental views into the policymaking process.

• Following the work of a Policy Development Process (PDP) on subsequent rounds of new gTLDs. This will be coordinated with a separate PDP reviewing all rights protection mechanisms (RPMs) for all gTLDs – including the first review of the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) ever undertaken. Approval of the Charter for the RPM PDP was given at the Council meeting in Marrakech, and Councilor Corwin has now been selected as one of its Co-Chairs.

• Overseeing the work of a multipart PDP on "A Next-Generation Registration Directory Service" (RDS)



Susan Kawaguchi, BC Councilor

that is intended to help redefine the purpose and provision of gTLD registration data, and develop a potential new model to replace today's much-criticized WHOIS system. BC Councilor Susan Kawaguchi has played an integral role in this important effort and will continue to be involved with its work.

The BC may also take the initiative on select new issues by urging the Council to initiate the process that can lead to the development of new responsive policies. One issue that has received BC attention is a rising number of domain thefts, which can be devastating to businesses and their customers. ICANN has a role to play in addressing this, including best practices for registrar security as well as tougher compliance against registrars who do not cooperate adequately in investigating incidents and returning stolen domains.

Another issue on the BC's radar is the targeting of Trademark Clearinghouse registered marks for excessive sunrise registration fees by new gTLDs, as brought to wider public attention by such registry actions as the \$2,500 annual fee established by .Sucks. The issue is broader than that single registry and involves questionable policies regarding "premium domain" designation and pricing by many new gTLD registries.

As 2016 continues to unfold, the BC's Councilors will continue to play a vital role in conveying BC consensus views to the Council while keeping BC members apprised of Council activities and decisions.



Philip Corwin, BC Councilor

• Maintaining and improving the

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#### The mission of the BC

The Constituency fully represents the views of the Internet business user community,

ICANN policy positions are consistent with the development of business via an Internet that is stable, secure and reliable while promoting consumer confidence.

ICANN policy positions derive from broad stakeholder participation in a common forum for suppliers and users.

#### **Executive Committee**

**Chair:** Chris Wilson **Vice Chair, Policy Coordination:** Steve DelBianco

Vice Chair, Finance & Operations: Jimson Olufuye CSG Representative: Cheryl Miller GNSO Councilor: Susan Kawaguchi GNSO Councilor: Philip Corwin

#### BC Appointees to the Nominating Committee:

Zahid Jamil (Small Business Seat) Stephen Coates (Large Business Seat)

#### 2016 BC Credentials Committee:

Philip Corwin Laura Covington Steve Coates

#### BC Finance Sub Committee:

Angie Graves Chris Chaplow

BC Secretariat: Chantelle Doerksen

#### **Outreach Committee Members:**

Andrew Mack (Coordinator) Ellen Blackler Marilyn Cade Lawrence Olawale-Roberts Angie Graves

#### About ICANN and the GNSO



ICANN's mission is to help ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet, you have to type an address into your computer — a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other.

ICANN helps coordinate and support these unique identifiers across the



world. ICANN was formed in 1998 as a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation and a community with participants from all over the world. ICANN and its community help keep the Internet secure, stable and interoperable

#### About the GNSO

The Generic Names Supporting Organization fashions (and over time, recommends changes to) policies for gTLDs (e.g., .com, .org, .biz).

The GNSO strives to keep gTLDs operating in a fair, orderly fashion across one global Internet, while promoting innovation and competition, for more information please visit: http://gnso.icann.org/en/

If you would like to become a member of the BC, please contact the BC Secretariat at: info-bc@icann.org

#### www.bizconst.org

BC Charter: www.bizconst.org/charter.htm

BC Members: www.bizconst.org/members.htm Join the BC: www.bizconst.org/joinus.htm

Acronym Helper: www.bizconst.org/glossary.htm