

Update on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process Working Group



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What is the PDP about?

- ⦿ GNSO recommendations from 2007 resulted in the Applicant Guidebook and the 2012 round of the New gTLD Program.
- ⦿ The New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP (“SubPro”) is focused on considering the 2012 round policy and **determining what changes might need to be made to the original GNSO recommendations from 2007 and/or implementation.**
- ⦿ The PDP was **chartered** and began its work in early **2016**
 - Charter available here: <https://gns0.icann.org/en/issues/new-gtlds/subsequent-procedures-charter-21jan16-en.pdf>
- ⦿ The PDP has over 40 separate topics identified in its charter and initially broke into Work Tracks (1-5) to tackle work. Sample of topics:
 - Community Applications
 - Applicant Support
 - Geographic Names at the Top Level

How is the PDP Structured?

- ⦿ The PDP has two overall co-chairs: **Jeff Neuman** (also Sub Group A) and **Cheryl Langdon-Orr** (also Sub Group C)
- ⦿ The PDP has over 40 separate topics identified in its charter. The Working group broke into four work tracks to complete initial deliberations. At ICANN63, the WG began reviewing **public comments** on its Initial Report in the form of three new Sub Groups. Sub Group leads: **Robin Gross** (Sub Group A), **Christa Taylor** (Sub Group B), **Rubens Kuhl** (Sub Group B), **Michael Flemming** (Sub Group C).
- ⦿ Work Track 5: **Geographic Names at the Top-Level** (**Annebeth Lange**, **Javier Rúa-Jovet**, **Martin Sutton**, and **Olga Cavalli**)
- ⦿ All Work Tracks and Sub Groups will submit their work to the whole Working Group for review and approval

What is the Role of the PDP Leadership?

- ⦿ Serving as a leader in this PDP, and any other GNSO PDP, is more about ensuring **process is followed**, including scheduling meetings, presiding over those meetings, ensuring PDP members are able to provide their contributions, and to deliver the WG's results to the GNSO Council.

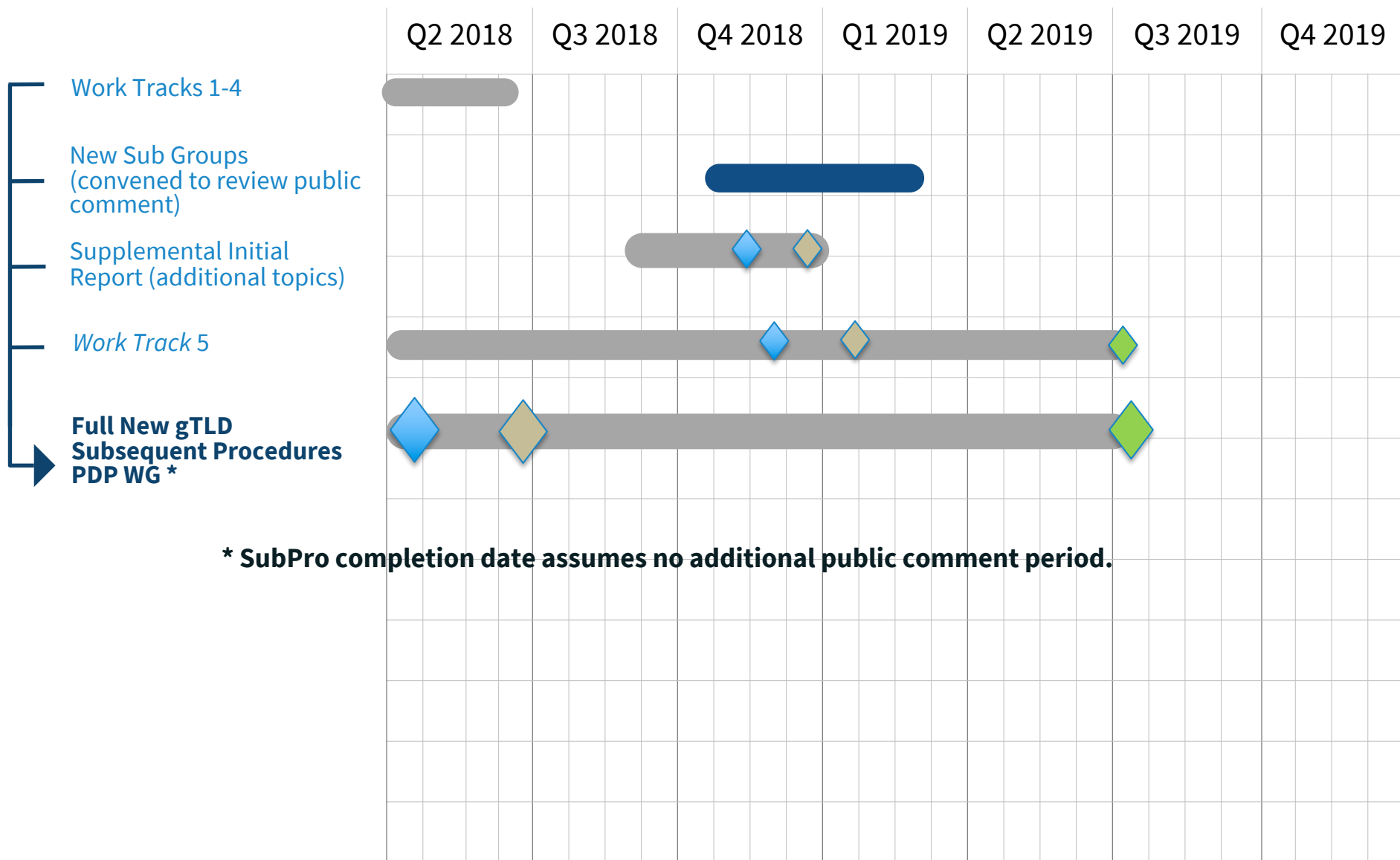


- ⦿ The overall WG co-chairs come from the GNSO and ALAC, while Work Track 5 has co-leads from each of the ALAC, ccNSO, GAC, and GNSO. However, as noted, the role of leadership is about ensuring **debates take place in an open and transparent fashion and that different viewpoints are able to be shared**, and not serving as advocates for their particular position or that of their organization.

Current Status

- ⦿ An Initial Report was published for public comment on 3 July 2018, with the period closing on 26 September.
- ⦿ Comments received have been organized and collated, with review Sub Groups (A, B, and C) nearly complete.
- ⦿ The WG also worked on a set of 5 topics that needed additional discussion, which were also published in late October for public comment in the form of a Supplemental Initial Report.
- ⦿ The full WG is now reviewing public comments received to this Supplemental Initial Report.
- ⦿ Work Track 5 (geo names at the top-level) published its own Supplemental Initial Report in December is set to begin review of public comment in late February.

SubPro Timeline



* SubPro completion date assumes no additional public comment period.

KEY



Publish Initial Report



Close of Public Comments



Final Report Delivered to Council

Who Can Participate?

- ⦿ *Anybody is welcome to participate*, as long as they complete a **Statement of Interest**.
- ⦿ The overall PDP has **~200** members and **~70** observers, with participation from ALAC, ccNSO, GAC, individuals, and all GNSO Stakeholder Groups/Constituencies
- ⦿ Work Track 5 has **~160** members and **~100** observers



How Does the PDP Operate?

- ⦿ *Most of the PDP's work takes place during conference calls with members (every week or every other week)*
- ⦿ However, the PDP convenes for face-to-face sessions at ICANN meetings, discussing issues with the wider community
- ⦿ The PDP tracks its work in a number of ways, with everything available on the dedicated Wiki space (<https://community.icann.org/x/RgV1Aw>):
 - Recordings, transcripts (for full WG), and notes from all meetings
 - Working documents used to capture deliberations
 - Data requests, background materials, and other inputs
- ⦿ Among other things, the Wiki also includes attendance records for all meetings, the PDP's work plan, action items, etc.



How Does the PDP Engage With the Community?

- Early Engagement with the GAC
- Request for past/existing Advice and Statements from SO/AC/SG/Cs
- Monthly Newsletters
- Community Comment 1 (on overarching issues)
- Community Comment 2 (the rest of the charter topics, via direct outreach and published for public comment)
- Public Comment on the Initial Report

At ICANN Meetings:

- Face-to-face working sessions
- Cross-community sessions
- Direct engagement with community groups (e.g., ALAC, GAC) on topics of particular interest

PDP 3.0 – Example of Some Practices in Place

- Re-establishing the relationship with GNSO Council liaisons to the PDP - for the SubPro PDP, there are two (Elsa Saade and Flip Petillion).
 - Participation in leadership coordination and planning meetings
- Working towards deadlines and making sure Council liaisons are informed
- May divide content into “chunks” to be able to make progress on the large amount of content
- Strong adherence to a work plan and keeping Council informed of changes

What is Coming Next for the PDP?

- ⦿ Consider public comment on Initial Report, Supplemental Initial Report, and WT5 Supplemental Initial Report and work towards completion and delivery of **Final Report** to GNSO Council for its consideration.
- ⦿ Consider recommendations of the **Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team** targeting this PDP.
- ⦿ Ensure Advisory Committee Advice is adequately considered and taken into account.

Example Topic 1 - Applicant Support Program (ASP)

- Issue:
 - Lack of utilization of the Applicant Support Program (ASP): During the 2012 round, only 3 applicants for ASP, 1 meeting criteria
 - The WG has identified a number of possible causes for lack of ASP use: Criteria is configured improperly, program made available too late, outreach efforts not executed well, and lack of holistic support (e.g., beyond financial)

- Current Status – Preliminary Recommendations and Options presented in Initial Report:
 - Suggested support beyond financial (e.g., mentoring, technical support, capacity building, annual ICANN fee relief, etc.)
 - Suggested expanding ASP to the “middle applicant,” or in other words struggling regions that are further along in their development compared to underserved or underdeveloped regions.

Example Topic 1 - Applicant Support Program (ASP)

- ⊙ Current Status, continued:
 - Suggested change of rule that resulted in ASP candidates losing initial fees when not meeting criteria
 - Suggested expanding outreach through local partners, GSE, leveraging existing workshops/conferences, etc.
 - Stemming from the AM Global Report, WG asked whether ASP candidates may not see business case, or environment is simply not ready to support a registry

Example Topic 2 – Community-based Applications

- Issue:
 - Concerns about Community Priority Evaluation (CPE) results – specifically about both the strictness of the criteria and the way they were interpreted by the evaluators
 - Concerns about the CPE process and level of transparency
- Current Status: Preliminary Recommendations and Options presented in Initial Report:
 - Have determined that a definition of community, as it applies to the New gTLD Program, is a priority but have not yet agreed on that definition.
 - Agreed on a number of improvements, like increasing transparency, predictability, and efficiency.
 - Recognized that there are challenges in administering a comparative evaluation model that creates winners and losers.

Example Topic 3 – Geographic Names at the Top-Level

- ⦿ Issue:
 - Inconsistency between GNSO policy recommendations and implementation in 2012 Applicant Guidebook
 - Issues with strings that were identified as geographic names in the AGB and also strings that were NOT considered geographic names in the AGB

- ⦿ Current Status: Preliminary Recommendations and Options presented in Initial Report:
 - Preliminarily recommended that the 2012 implementation for geographic names should largely be maintained, for example:
 - Reserve various categories of country and territory names against application (e.g., all 2-char, 3-char in ISO 3166-1, short and long form names in ISO 3166-1, etc.)

Example Topic 3 – Geographic Names at the Top-Level

- ⊙ Current Status, continued:
 - Preliminarily recommended that the 2012 implementation for geographic names should be maintained
 - Require letter of approval / non-objection for capital city names, sub-national place names, UNESCO, etc.)
 - Require letter of approval /non-objection for non-capital city names if the applicant intends to use the TLD for purposes related to the city.
 - Asked a number of questions and presented proposals, some of which limit the scope of preventative protections, while others expand the scope.
 - Some proposals suggest operational improvements, which could be compatible with status quo or limited/expanded scope.

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What Happens After the PDP delivers its Final Report?

- This PDP is seeking to deliver its Final Report to the GNSO Council in the third quarter of 2019.
- From that point, these are some of the expected next steps (as with the conclusion of any PDP):
 - **GNSO Council** consideration and **adoption** of the **PDP recommendations** in the Final Report
 - Council report to Board / Public Comment
 - **ICANN Board** consideration and **adoption** of the **PDP recommendations** as adopted by GNSO Council
 - ICANN org (as directed by the Board) to begin implementation of the PDP recommendations (which will likely include a **revised Applicant Guidebook**)

PDP Resources

- Active Project Page: <https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/new-gtld-subsequent-procedures>
- PDP Wiki: <https://community.icann.org/x/RgV1Aw>
- PDP Mailing List Archive: <http://mm.icann.org/pipermail/gnso-newgtld-wg/>
- Newsletters: <https://gnso.icann.org/en/news/working-group-newsletters>

Questions & Answers