



GNSO COUNCIL NCSG POSITION NOTIFICATION

Effective: 4 August 2009

SUMMARY: The ICANN Board seeks to appoint three (3) positions on the new GNSO Council representing the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG) on or before the ICANN meeting in Seoul, Korea (October 2009).

This document describes general information pertaining to the three positions that initially will be filled by the Board. Questions may be directed to: Robert Hoggarth, Sr. Policy Director, at policy-staff@icann.org. The accompanying application form should be completed by interested candidates and submitted per the instructions provided by noon PDT, on 31 August 2009.

A. About ICANN

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) is a California public benefit, non-profit corporation that serves as a major technical coordination body for the Internet. Created in 1998 by a joint initiative of the Internet's business, technical, academic, and user communities, ICANN has been gradually assuming the responsibility for a set of technical functions previously performed by the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) and other groups.

ICANN's mission is "to coordinate, at the overall level, the global Internet's systems of unique identifiers, and in particular to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems. In particular, ICANN:

1. Coordinates the allocation and assignment of the three sets of unique identifiers for the Internet, which are:
 - a. Domain names (forming a system referred to as "DNS");
 - b. Internet protocol ("IP") addresses and autonomous system ("AS") numbers; and
 - c. Protocol port and parameter numbers.
2. Coordinates the operation and evolution of the DNS root name server system
3. Coordinates policy development reasonably and appropriately related to these technical functions." (See: <http://www.icann.org/general/bylaws.htm#I>)

ICANN is dedicated to preserving the operational stability of the Internet; to promoting competition; to achieving broad representation of global Internet communities; and to developing policy appropriate to its mission through bottom-up consensus-based processes.

ICANN policy is developed by three supporting organizations – the GNSO, ccNSO and ASO – with significant public consultation, and is approved by the ICANN Board. ICANN advisory groups – the ALAC, GAC, SSAC, and RSSAC – assist in this process. More information is available at <http://www.icann.org/en/about>.

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) is a policy-development body responsible for developing and recommending to the ICANN Board substantive policies relating to generic top-level domains. The GNSO consists of (a) various Board-approved Constituencies organized



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into four broad Stakeholder Groups, each representing defined interest groups and (b) a GNSO Council responsible for managing the policy development and administrative processes of the GNSO. The positions available via this notification process are housed within the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG) which represents the interests of civil society.

B. Available Positions: GNSO Council Representatives for the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG)

Number of Seats: 3

Start of Term: Annual Meeting 2009 – Seoul, Korea

End of Term: Conclusion of ICANN Annual Meeting 2011

The ICANN Board is seeking qualified and interested candidates who will represent (on a transitional basis) and encourage creation of broad, diverse, and representative new non-commercial Constituencies in areas such as:

- Consumer Interests
- Research and Academia
- Registrants
- Philanthropic

Candidates filling these transitional positions will be individuals who not only serve as full-fledged GNSO Council representatives for the NCSG, but who will also provide leadership and guidance in building new GNSO Constituencies in the specific community categories for which they have applied.

To continue supporting diversity on the GNSO Council, the Board expects to select candidates for these transitional positions from three different Geographic Regions currently defined as: Europe; Asia/Australia/Pacific; Latin America/Caribbean islands; Africa; and North America (ICANN Bylaws, Article VI, Section 5).

GNSO Councilors receive no compensation for their services as GNSO Council Members. ICANN provides administrative and operational support necessary for the GNSO to carry out its responsibilities through the GNSO Secretariat. ICANN also provides staff support for policy development. As stated in the ICANN Bylaws, such support shall not include an obligation for ICANN to fund travel expenses incurred by GNSO participants for travel to any meeting of the GNSO or for any other purpose. However, ICANN has furnished travel expenses for appointed Council members to ICANN meetings. Additional budget funds are also likely to be made available to support Constituency development.

The Board will use the Criteria for Selection of ICANN Directors (see below) in choosing Selected Nominees for these transitional GNSO Council positions. GNSO Council members are



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expected to support the ICANN and GNSO missions and the implementation of ICANN's Core Values.

GNSO Council Eligibility Factors

No more than one officer, director, or employee of any particular corporation or other organization (including its subsidiaries and affiliates) shall serve on the GNSO Council at any given time. [Bylaws, Article X, Section 3(5), see <http://www.icann.org/general/bylaws.htm#X-3.5>]

The current composition of the GNSO Council is available here
<http://gns0.icann.org/council/members.shtml>

The ICANN Bylaws limit the number of terms GNSO Council members may serve to two consecutive two-year terms.

Time Commitment

The basic responsibilities of a GNSO Council member involve a minimum of 20 hours per month on Council related activities, with those chairing or participating in committees or Working Groups spending up to 60 hours a month or more. Depending on work load, for example during the weeks before the 3 face-to-face meeting, this can sometimes escalate to as much as 20 hours per week or more. The commitment for the 3 face-to-face meetings generally run about 7 days with council members having sometimes extensive responsibilities on most days. For those involved in Working Groups, there may occasionally be additional face-to-face interim meetings.

Councilors are not compensated for either time or teleconference costs though ICANN makes toll free numbers available whenever practical.

C. Qualifications Sought

The Board is seeking women and men who have demonstrated the maturity, experience, knowledge, and skills to handle the tasks and make the judgments involved in fulfilling these important Council positions.

The Board seeks persons of the highest integrity and capability with experience and talents for problem solving, policy development, and decision-making involving diverse perspectives regarding how best to accomplish the mission and responsibilities of ICANN. Those selected will be expected to place the public interest of the global Internet ahead of any particular interests and to identify and recruit others who share those abilities.

Nominees are expected to be knowledgeable, or committed to becoming knowledgeable, about the environment in which ICANN operates and the technical functions for which it is



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responsible, but strong technical knowledge of the Internet is not the determining factor in these Board appointments.

Extensive community contacts and recruiting capabilities are also critical to these transitional leadership roles. Nominees will be expected to help identify and recruit other members of the non-commercial community to join and populate a new non-commercial GNSO Constituency group.

The Board encourages wide participation in this process and is grateful for the valuable input it will receive from those who apply for the positions available.

D. Criteria, Core Values, and Timing for Positions to be Filled

Criteria

The Board will use the following criteria in selecting all three positions:

1. Accomplished persons of integrity, objectivity, and intelligence, with reputations for sound judgment and open minds, and a demonstrated capacity for thoughtful group decision-making;
2. Persons with an understanding of ICANN's mission and the potential impact of ICANN decisions on the global Internet community, and committed to the success of ICANN;
3. Persons who will support cultural and geographic diversity consistent with meeting the other criteria set forth in this Section;
4. Persons who, in the aggregate, have some personal familiarity with the operation of gTLD registries and registrars; with IP address registries; with Internet technical standards and protocols; with policy-development procedures, legal traditions, and the public interest; and with the broad range of business, individual, academic, and non-commercial users of the Internet;
5. Persons who are willing to serve as volunteers, without compensation other than the reimbursement of certain expenses;
6. Persons who are able to work and communicate in written and spoken English; and
7. Persons with broad and extensive community contacts in the community groups they seek to represent.

Additional GNSO Criteria:

The community has identified various criteria that also will be considered when selecting GNSO Council candidates:

- Demonstrated experience working effectively in collaborative environments involving diverse interests.
- Ability to chair or otherwise assist a multi-stakeholder group in reaching consensus.



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- Basic knowledge of DNS systems and industry structure - registries, registrars. The goal is not to find technical DNS experts, but a minimal understanding of the DNS is needed to effectively function on the Council. For example, appointees should understand something along the lines of: "Do you know what happens in the DNS when you send an email, or access a webpage?" This requires an understanding of the general process of name resolution without requiring a precise technical description.

The Board welcomes and encourages participation from all members of the global Internet community. Although Candidates should be able to both work and communicate well in English, there is no requirement that English be the candidate's first language.

Core Values

In making its selections, the Board will look for persons who can help implement ICANN's Core Values, stated in its Bylaws:

"In performing its mission, the following core values should guide the decisions and actions of ICANN:

1. Preserving and enhancing the operational stability, reliability, security, and global interoperability of the Internet.
2. Respecting the creativity, innovation, and flow of information made possible by the Internet by limiting ICANN's activities to those matters within ICANN's mission requiring or significantly benefiting from global coordination.
3. To the extent feasible and appropriate, delegating coordination functions to or recognizing the policy role of other responsible entities that reflect the interests of affected parties.
4. Seeking and supporting broad, informed participation reflecting the functional, geographic, and cultural diversity of the Internet at all levels of policy development and decision-making.
5. Where feasible and appropriate, depending on market mechanisms to promote and sustain a competitive environment.
6. Introducing and promoting competition in the registration of domain names where practicable and beneficial in the public interest.
7. Employing open and transparent policy development mechanisms that (i) promote well-informed decisions based on expert advice, and (ii) ensure that those entities most affected can assist in the policy development process.
8. Making decisions by applying documented policies neutrally and objectively, with integrity and fairness.
9. Acting with a speed that is responsive to the needs of the Internet while, as part of the decision-making process, obtaining informed input from those entities most affected.
10. Remaining accountable to the Internet community through mechanisms that enhance ICANN's effectiveness.

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11. While remaining rooted in the private sector, recognizing that governments and public authorities are responsible for public policy and duly taking into account governments' or public authorities' recommendations.

These core values are deliberately expressed in very general terms, so that they may provide useful and relevant guidance in the broadest possible range of circumstances. Because they are not narrowly prescriptive, the specific way in which they apply, individually and collectively, to each new situation will necessarily depend on many factors that cannot be fully anticipated or enumerated; and because they are statements of principle rather than practice, situations will inevitably arise in which perfect fidelity to all eleven core values simultaneously is not possible. Any ICANN body making a recommendation or decision shall exercise its judgment to determine which core values are most relevant and how they apply to the specific circumstances of the case at hand, and to determine, if necessary, an appropriate and defensible balance among competing values."

Timing

The Board expects to have all candidate nominations received on or before 31 August 2009. It further intends to make selections and announcements on or before the September 2009 Board Meeting.

E. Choosing to Become a Candidate

Liability/Indemnification

GNSO Council members enjoy several types of protection from liability for their activities in service to ICANN. These may be summarized as follows:

- a) Indemnification by ICANN. Under its bylaws, ICANN indemnifies members of ICANN bodies against expenses, judgments, fines, settlements, and other amounts that actually and reasonably arise in a proceeding because those persons are acting or have acted as agents of ICANN. There are various conditions to this indemnity, including that the indemnified person's acts were in good faith and done in a manner reasonably believed to be in ICANN's best interests and not criminal. [Bylaws Article XIV]
- b) Insurance. ICANN carries insurance covering liabilities (including defense expenses) that ICANN and its Directors, volunteers, and committee members may incur by reason of acts or omissions solely in their capacities as Directors, volunteers, and committee members acting on behalf of ICANN. The insurance policy includes deductibles, exclusions, and conditions that are ordinary in a liability policy covering directors, officers, and volunteers of a non-profit corporation.
- c) Statutory Immunity. United States federal law and California law contain provisions shielding volunteers to non-profit organizations (such as ICANN) from liabilities for their volunteer work, with some conditions. The U.S. Volunteer Protection Act of 1997



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protects volunteers (i.e. those serving without compensation) to non-profit organizations from liability for harm caused by their acts and omissions while acting within the scope of their responsibilities in the organization and not in a willful, criminal, grossly negligent, reckless, etc. manner. [42 United States Code §§14501-14505] California law provides similar liability protections to volunteer directors. [California Corporations Code §5239]

Although there are various conditions and limits on each type of protection, in the aggregate these protections provide significant protection to ICANN volunteers acting in good faith and in the scope of their responsibilities to ICANN.

F. Board Selection Process

Central to the Board's process are the Statements of Interest received from individuals who agree to be considered for service in any of the positions. A person who has submitted a complete Statement of Interest is considered a Candidate for selection by the Board. The Board (through its Structural Improvements Committee – "SIC") will begin its review of Candidate information contained in the completed Statement of Interest shortly after it is received and confirmed to have all the required information. If the Statement of Interest is missing required information the individual may not be considered a Candidate for selection.

The SIC will evaluate Candidates in a fair and consistent manner, considering the Statement of Interest, references, interviews as needed, consultations, and third-party information sources. While doing so, it will adhere to its Code of Ethics, which includes procedures regarding Confidentiality and Conflicts of Interest. The SIC will then share its recommendations with the full ICANN Board.

Note that because the Board and/or Staff will need to check references and consult selected third-party sources on a confidential basis before making its final selections, those wishing to be considered as Candidates are required to confirm this understanding of the confidentiality arrangements when they submit a Statement of Interest.

When the Board has completed its deliberations, it will announce the identities of the selected nominees.

The Board's selections are final; no further approval or ratification will take place.

G. Statement of Interest (see Accompanying Application Form)

Notes have been included below to help you answer the questions in the accompanying SOI. Please read these notes carefully before answering.



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Section A. Identifying Information

Please provide contact information in the spaces provided.

If you have more than one country of citizenship, please list the country of citizenship or domicile that you want the Board to use for this application process.

Preferred Constituency Position: (see descriptions above in Section B)

Section B. Employment Information

Please provide your current job title and name of your employer. If self-employed, mention your area of work. Briefly describe your current job and your duties. If you have a resume or CV, you may also attach it to this statement.

Education and Professional Background. Summarize your educational background, such as degrees achieved and the university(s) where you studied, and the three most recent places of employment and positions held.

Please describe what specific background and/or experiences (including leadership and recruitment skills) that will be helpful in representing and organizing a new non-commercial GNSO Constituency.

Section C. Internet Involvement and Interest in ICANN

The purpose of the questions in Section C is to help the Board understand the skills and experience you would bring to ICANN, how you would help ICANN achieve its mission, and how you meet the criteria for the leadership positions the Board will fill. Please refer to Sections B, C, and D (above) for descriptions of these criteria.

Describe how your work and other experiences are relevant to your candidacy and helps you meet the criteria for the position(s).

The Board would like to know about your familiarity with the Internet's naming and addressing infrastructure, the domain name system and other Internet technical functions coordinated by ICANN, both in technical and policy matters. Please describe any involvement with the operation of ccTLD, gTLD registries or registrars, IP address registries, or relevant DNS technical or policy development process, including Internet technical protocols and standards. Your answer should include details of any involvement with ICANN, its policy development processes including its creation and evolution, supporting organizations and councils.

Contribution to ICANN and its Mission. Please state clearly how you see yourself contributing to ICANN and its mission. Please highlight your personal skills and experience that would be



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beneficial to the organization. You should mention specific past or current contributions in fields such as international relations, technical leadership, managerial skills, languages, etc., as well as goals for your contribution in the desired position.

Conflicts of Interest. Please refer to the ICANN Conflicts of Interest policy <http://www.icann.org/en/committees/coi/coi-policy-30jul09-en.htm>. This document is aimed at conflicts for ICANN Directors and Officers, but should provide guidance for all ICANN leadership positions. If you have had any relationship with an ICANN accredited registry or registrar (other than registering a domain name) or any organization that has been in dispute with ICANN, please describe that relationship here. Conflicts of interest are not necessarily disqualifying, since we anticipate that many experienced people may have such relationships.

Section D. Selecting References

You must ask the people you select for their agreement before submitting their names to the Board. They should know they may be asked by the Board or Staff to provide a reference and should understand the purpose of this process.

Due diligence and third party references. ICANN Staff or a professional firm will conduct due diligence on selected applicants. Due diligence will be confidential and conducted according to global industry standards. In some circumstances the Board may ask a third party for additional reference information under a condition of confidentiality. If there is any person or persons you would like us not to contact for any third party checks, please let us know in your SOI.

Section E. Consent and Authorization

The Board will need to check references and consult selected third-party sources on a confidential basis before making its final selections; therefore, those wishing to be considered as Candidates are required to confirm this understanding of the confidentiality arrangements when they submit a Statement of Interest.

H. Amendments

Version	Date	Name	Description
1.0	3 Aug 2009	Rob Hoggarth (Staff)	Final version published on ICANN.org
2.0	19 Aug 2009	Rob Hoggarth (Staff)	Removed parenthetical language modifying the Council “End of Term” (Section B, page 2) and corrected Conflict of Interest Link in Section C, page 9.