

Whois Task Force

GNSO Public Forum

Wellington

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Background

- Whois Task Force chartered to work on:
 - **Define purpose of Whois and contacts in Whois**
 - **What data should be public, and how it should be accessed**
 - **Accuracy of Whois data**
 - **Resolving conflicts between ICANN contractual requirements and local privacy laws**

Progress to date

- Work on Whois & national laws is complete
- Currently finalizing work on purpose of Whois
- Have begun hearing policy proposals for remaining items of our Terms of Reference
 - **Purpose of contacts**
 - **Access to data**
 - **Accuracy of data**

Formulation 1

- “The purpose of the gTLD Whois service is to provide information sufficient to contact a responsible party for a particular gTLD domain name who can resolve, or reliably pass on data to a party who can resolve, **issues related to the configuration of the records associated with the domain name within a DNS nameserver.**”

Formulation 1

- Supported by the registrars, registries, and NCUC
 - Consistent with the narrow technical mission of ICANN, ICANN's Core Values (particularly 1-3) and national data protection laws worldwide.
 - Core Values: #1 Security and Stability, #2 Respecting creativity and flow of information by limiting ICANN's activities to matters in ICANN's mission, #3 Delegating to and respecting the policy role of responsible entities that reflect the interests of affected parties

Formulation #2

- “The purpose of the gTLD Whois service is to provide information sufficient to contact a responsible party or parties for a particular gTLD domain name who can resolve, or reliably pass on data to a party **who can resolve, technical, legal or other issues related to the registration or use of a domain name.**”

Formulation 2

- Supported by IPC, ISPCP, and BC
 - This approach is most consistent with the history of Whois and follows the growth and expansion, in both number of users and importance as a means of communication, of the Internet.
 - This approach is most consistent with the actual uses of Whois to help resolve these issues
 - This approach is consistent with ICANN's Mission and Core Values

Thanks!

We welcome comments
and suggestions