

ccNSO meeting report

Mar del Plata, Argentina

0. Introduction

The ccNSO meeting was held in Mar del Plata, Argentina on the 4th and 5th of April 2005. The meeting was attended by over 90 people including ccNSO members, non-member ccTLD managers and observers.

The ccNSO Council meeting was held on Wednesday the 6th April.

1. MEMBER'S MEETING

1a) IANA report

Once again a very useful and productive session was held with Doug Barton and Barbara Roseman. The ccNSO is encouraged by the progress that has been made by IANA staff since the last meeting. The ccNSO IANA Working Group (comprising ccNSO members and non-members) has now been formed and is chaired by Bernard Turcotte of .ca. The Working Group will liaise closely with IANA staff on continuing improvements to IANA procedures and functionality and the members look forward to the Working Groups report in Luxembourg.

1b) WSIS

Theresa Swinehart provided a full briefing on the WSIS and WGIG and the issues as they relate to ccTLD managers were discussed in detail. The ccNSO WSIS Working Group will consider whether the ccNSO should submit a paper to the WGIG. Meanwhile the members approved the endorsement of the ICANN WSIS Working Group submission.

1c) GAC

An update on the ccNSO/GAC Joint Working Group was presented and the first of the information sharing sessions between the ccNSO and the GAC was held. The ccNSO members appreciate the opportunity to meet with the GAC on a regular basis to exchange information.

1d) ICANN Fees

The ccNSO members endorsed the formation of an ICANN Fees Working Group to be tasked with investigating various models for the apportionment of the ccTLD contribution to ICANN amongst ccTLDs. A number of models were discussed amongst members.

1e) Accountability Frameworks

The Accountability Frameworks Working Group reported on the matters that may be addressed in the ccNSO guidelines and the meeting considered at length the sorts of obligations that the ccTLDs would expect ICANN to provide and would be prepared to provide to ICANN. The Working Group will continue to develop the guidelines over the coming months.

There were also sessions on the ICANN Strategic Plan, the ccNSO Secretariat and the ccNSO nominated directors provided an update on their experience so far as members of the Board.

2. COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Council meeting will be published separately, however one item is worthy of mention in this meeting report.

Members of the European ccTLDs have been talking to Council members about a number of changes to the bylaws that would encourage them to join the ccNSO. A document was sent to ICANN by CENTR providing an overview of the problems they consider to be associated with the bylaws. ICANN has subsequently handed this matter to the ccNSO to action. CENTR proposes changes to the Policy Development Process (PDP) and changes to the ICANN bylaws. Under the bylaws, in order to change the PDP the ccNSO needs to conduct a PDP and whilst there may be other ways to recommend changes to the ccNSO bylaw the Council would only consider doing so by use of the PDP.

Council is considering launching a PDP to see whether there is consensus in the ccTLD community on the changes. If this is done the CENTR paper is not the only issue that may be considered, others could also identify changes they would also like considered. The PDP requires input from outside and the first step is to prepare an Issues Report. The Council will consider whether to start the process via teleconference in two to three weeks time.

The CENTR paper and an explanation of the mooted process will be forwarded to the members and ccTLD discussion lists within the next 48 to 72 hours seeking input to assist the Council in making the decision.