

Comparison Element

GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP)

Cross Community Working Group (CCWG)

1. Intended usage

Development of **policy recommendations specific to gTLDs, per ICANN Bylaws**. Issue must be within the scope of ICANN's mission statement and the role of the GNSO (e.g. policy development)

Allows any number of **ICANN's SO/ACs to work together** to address issues of common interest that **do not fall within the sole remit of one SO or AC**.

2. Requesting review of issue (e.g. scoping)

Board, GNSO Council, or Advisory Committee

The **interested community organizations** must consider a set of initial questions to **determine whether a CCWG is appropriate** (note that a CCWG cannot be used for any policy development work within a SO's remit)

3. Public comment required at scoping stage?

Yes

No

4. Who decides to launch PDP/CCWG?

GNSO Council (voting threshold must be met)

Two or more SO/ACs, who have mutually agreed to operate under a **single charter**.

5. Is there a Charter framing the scope of work

Required

Recommended

6. Are there binding operating procedures and rules?

Yes (PDP Manual, Working Group Guidelines)

No (Non-prescriptive guidance and recommendations provided in the Uniform Framework, developed by the ccNSO and GNSO jointly). However, the CCWG would be **bound** by its **agreed upon Charter**.

7. Who can participate?

Open to anyone (No membership requirements or numerical limit. Only requirement is to complete Statement of Interest(SOI))

Limited to a set of **members** to be **appointed by participating SO/ACs**.

8. Can anyone join as an observer?

Yes, though **observers** can **switch to a member** at any time.

Yes

9. Are there regular reporting requirements?

Yes, to GNSO Council.

Yes, to the respective Chartering Organizations.

10. Are there opportunities for public comment?

Yes, **mandated outreach at an early stage** to **SG/Cs** and **SO/ACs** and the **Initial Report** must be **published for public comment**.

No, early outreach is not required, but **CCWG should publish initial recommendations** for public comment.

11. How are decisions made by the group?

PDP Manual includes **specific, defined consensus levels** which **must be assigned to all final recommendations**.

CCWG Uniform Framework recommends fewer consensus levels, but ultimately determined by what is **agreed upon in the Charter**.

12. What is the status of final recommendations?

Outcomes **must be approved** first by the **GNSO Council** (voting threshold specified) and then the **ICANN Board**.

Outcomes **should be approved** by its **Chartering Organizations**.

13. What is the role of the ICANN Board?

ICANN Board **must formally approve** (voting threshold specified) **all PDP recommendations** first approved by GNSO Council.

Not specified. Depends on the nature of the project, but ultimately determined by what is **agreed upon in the Charter**.

14. What is the role of the GAC?

GAC "**quick look mechanism**" **pre-PDP**; **early outreach** during PDP; **GAC notification** and ability to provide **GAC Advice** on public policy concerns following Council approval of PDP outcomes.

Not specified, unless the GAC is one of the Chartering Organizations.

15. What happens if the Board disagrees with recommendations?

Bylaws prescribe **specific actions and reconciliation process**.

Not specified. Board role is determined by the nature of the project and as captured in the Charter.

16. How is implementation handled?

Consensus Policy Implementation Framework (CPIF) specifies **roles of staff and community** (including formation of of community-based **Implementation Review Team**).

Not specified. Depends on the nature of the project, but ultimately determined by what is **agreed upon in the Charter**.