Expedited Policy Development Process: Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data - Phase 2 & Phase 2A

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN71 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The EPDP Phase 2 Team has completed its work and, accordingly, will not be meeting at ICANN71. The EPDP Phase 2A Team plans to present a high-level overview of its Initial Report during ICANN71 and invites the ICANN community to attend and provide feedback. The session will take place on Wednesday, 16 June 2021, from 16:30-17:30 (CEST).

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

On 17 May 2018, the ICANN Board approved the Temporary Specification for generic top-level domain (gTLD) Registration Data to allow contracted parties to comply with existing ICANN contractual requirements and, at the same time, the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This Board action triggered the GNSO Council's initiation of a PDP on 19 July 2018. The PDP was conducted in two phases: Phase 1 aimed to confirm, or not, the Temporary Specification by 25 May 2019; Phase 2 discussed, among other elements, a standardized access model to nonpublic registration data. **Learn More**

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

Phase 2

The GNSO Council approved the **Phase 2 Final Report** during its meeting on 24 September 2020 by a supermajority. The Final Report sets out the EPDP Team's recommendations for a System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) to nonpublic gTLD registration data, as well as recommendations and conclusions for the so-called "Priority 2" topics, which include data retention, city field redaction, et al.

As part of its approval, the GNSO Council agreed to request a consultation with the ICANN Board to discuss the financial sustainability of the SSAD and some of the concerns expressed within the different minority statements, including whether a further cost-benefit analysis should be conducted before the ICANN Board considers all SSAD-related recommendations for adoption. During ICANN70, the Board directed ICANN org to initiate an Operational Design Phase (ODP) for the SSAD-related recommendations, and the ODP is currently ongoing. For more information on the SSAD ODP, please visit the following **page**.

Request for an Issue Report | Publication of Preliminary Issue Report | Gather Public Comments | Publication of Final Issue Report | Initiate Policy Development Process | Form Working Group (WG) | Request for SG/C Statements & SO/AC Input | WG Initial Report

POLICY | Implementation | Board Vote | **Gather Public Comments** | Recommendation to ICANN Board | GNSO Council Deliberates | WG Final Report | Gather Public Comments

As the requested consultation related only to SSAD-related recommendations, the Board opted to consider the Priority 2 recommendations separately and conducted a **Public Comment** period on those recommendations from December 2020 to January 2021. The Board conducted a separate **Public Comment** period on the SSAD-related recommendations from February to March 2021.

Phase 2A
Following the request from some EPDP Team members, the GNSO Council asked the EPDP Team to continue its work on two topics: 1) the differentiation of legal vs. natural persons' registration data and 2) the feasibility of unique contacts to have a uniform anonymized email address.

As a result, the EPDP Team is currently reviewing these topics assigned by the GNSO Council in **Phase 2A** of its work. The team has been meeting regularly since December 2020 and plans to publish its Initial Report by the end of May 2021. In relation to its work on the differentiation between legal and natural persons, the EPDP Team has discussed the risks involved with the inadvertent disclosure of personal information and how to best mitigate these risks. The EPDP Team has also extensively discussed proposed guidance for contracted parties who choose to differentiate between legal and natural persons. For example, the team has discussed the option for registrars to allow registrants to self-designate as legal or natural persons. Registrars who offer this option are responsible for explaining to the registrants that self-designating as legal persons may result in the publication of the contact information in a public database.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

For Phase 2, the ICANN Board is expected to consider the SSAD-related recommendations following the conclusion of the ODP. The Board is expected to consider the Phase 2 recommendations, which are not related to the SSAD, also referred to as the "Priority 2 recommendations," during its meeting in June 2021. The Priority 2 recommendations concern topics held over from EPDP Phase 1, e.g., city field redaction, display of privacy and proxy registrations.

For Phase 2A, the EPDP Team plans to publish its initial report and will provide a high-level overview of its contents during its public session at ICANN71. Following its review of the input received during the Public Comment period, the EPDP Team will finalize its report for submission to the GNSO Council.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Parties interested in the EPDP are invited to provide feedback during the EPDP Phase 2A Public Comment forum on the Initial Report.

MORE INFORMATION

- **EPDP Phase 2 webpage**

- **EPDP workspace**

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