**April 2006**

**WELCOME**

Welcome to Bizconst News, the Business Constituency newsletter.We hope that this newsletter continues to provide you with relevant information regarding all the issues and news. Its aim is to give a snapshot of an issue with onward links to fuller detail and background information. Remember the Issues Made Easy and Glossary sections of the BC website will decode any obscure acronyms for you. The secretariat would be pleased to hear your comments about the newsletter.

Best wishes

Gary

**ICANN Meetings in Wellington, New Zealand**

ICANN meetings took place in Wellington 25 – 31 March 2006

Meeting records are available and are posted as real-time captioning here:

[www.icann.org/meetings/wellington](http://www.icann.org/meetings/wellington)

**New gTLD Policy Development Process (PDP)**

Philip Sheppard is the BC Rapporteur for new gTLDs.

The GNSO Council as a whole is working as a Task Force (TF) on this PDP. The TF is chaired by Bruce Tonkin – who is also the GNSO Council Chair – and staffed by Liz Williams, Senior Policy Officer/Consultant. The Council has allowed observers to attend all its working sessions. So far, Alexander Schubert and Dirk Krischenowski, dotBerlin, have been involved as observers. Any other BC members would also be welcome to do so.

The next step in the PDP process involves further elaboration on the BC views as a constituency; comments are due by 30 April 2006. The BC will make submission to the new TF and a draft will be submitted to the membership for comment

**New Registry Services PDP**

Marilyn Cade is the Rapporteur for this PDP and Constituency statements are required to be submitted by 5 May 2006.The BC statement will be based on previous Positions and a draft of the statement will be circulated to members for comment.

**International Domain Names**

The GNSO will soon be receiving an Issues Report on International Domain Names (IDNs). At the same time ICANN has announced a technical trial using two different solutions, dnames and ns records.Once the Report is received, the BC will need to become well informed of the political, technical and business implications.

Marilyn Cade is currently working with Tina Dam, ICANN staff, to investigate the possibility of a workshop/briefing for the BC and other constituencies. Tina has already agreed to this idea in principle.

For background on the IDN issue:

[www.icann.org/topics/idn](http://www.icann.org/topics/idn)

**WHOIS Update**

In Wellington, the GNSO Council voted on the two WHOIS TF formulations regarding the purpose of WHOIS.

The vote favoured a purely technical definition of WHOIS purpose (known as formulation 1), rejecting both a definition (formulation 2) and a compromise which factored in uses of WHOIS for consumer protection and law enforcement.

The compromise was crafted by Philip Sheppard as a GNSO Councillor. Efforts were made to gain support and feedback from the NomComm members, who initially were expressing interest in a balanced definition, but in the end, did not vote to support the formulation 2, supported by the BC, ISPCP and IPC Constituencies.

After the vote, formulation 1, which received 18 votes in favour and 9 votes against, has been referred back to the TF as a “working definition” for the task force to use for its remaining work.

GAC members made it clear to Council that they wanted to be involved with the process. Marilyn Cade and other TF members have now established a dialogue with the GAC working group chair, and will urge the development of a process to ensure GAC input to the Council between now and Marrakech.

The Formulations

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.”
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.”

**GNSO Review**

The review of the GNSO, its structures, networks and constituencies is ongoing. The London School of Economics review team is still conducting online surveys and telephone interviews.

BC members are urged to participate in this important research. To take part and are asked to contact the team directly

For further background on the review process:

[www.icann-gnsoreview.org](http://www.icann-gnsoreview.org/)

**Strategic Plan**

The Strategic Plan is approved. The Operational Plan is to be approved in Marrakech and there is still time to make comment. Please post your comments to Gary Hills, Secretariat.

Marilyn will then make a summary posting to the BC list on the Operational Plan.

**New Members**

We are delighted to welcome two new Business Constituency members:

dotBerlin, represented by Alexander Schubert

Palage Consulting, represented by Michael Palage

Welcome to all!

**ICANN NEWS**

ICANN Newsletter

ICANN’s latest newsletter is available (pdf file):

[www.icann.org/newsletter/newsletter-dec2005.pdf](http://www.icann.org/newsletter/newsletter-dec2005.pdf)

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES**

**ICANN meetings, Marrakech, Morocco – 26 – 30 June 2006**

**ICANN meetings, Sao Paulo, Brazil – 2 – 8 December 2006**