



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF FICPI INFORMATION DOCUMENT 19 JULY 2013

### CET INFORMATION DOCUMENT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

<p><b>TITLE:</b> Beijing ICANN Public Meeting in review, meeting held April 6 – 11, 2013</p> <p><b>DRAWN UP BY:</b> <i>Commission d'Etude et de Travail (CET) Work &amp; Study Commission</i> Petter Rindforth, CET Group 1, Sub-Chair Domain Names</p> <p><b>PURPOSE:</b> For information and publication in the library section of FICPI's website</p>	<p>QR CODE:</p> 
--	---

The ICANN's 46<sup>th</sup> Public Meeting was held in Beijing, China, April 6 – 11, 2013.

The meeting started in fact unofficially already by April 4, with GAC (Governmental Advisory Committee) meetings. GAC members were making some final comments on the regulations for new top level domains, and ended up by asking ICANN to include the so-called public interest commitments into the contracts with new TLD operators. The public interest commitments (PICs) mechanism (including a dispute resolution procedure, PICDRP) was only recently established by ICANN in an effort to allow applicants to address GAC public policy concerns expressed in GAC "early warning" notices.

April 6– 7 was a full GNSO Council working session weekend, covering everything from informational presentations from ICANN staff and the community on current Policy Development Processes ("PDPs") to preparation sessions for formal meetings with other ICANN Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees later on during this ICANN meeting.

The **Locking of a Domain Name Subject to the UDRP Working Group** recently published its initial report, most notably recommending, "as a best practice, complainants need not inform respondents that a complaint has been filed to avoid cyberflight;" and "within two business

days, at the latest following receipt of the verification request from the UDRP Provider, the registrar will modify the status of the registration to prevent any changes of registrar and registrant." It was clarified that selection of the two business day time frame was a practical consideration for smaller registrar business models<sup>1</sup>.

The **IPC<sup>2</sup>opposed** motion sought to demonize and appeal the implementation of elements within the strawman solution, because brand owners fervently support the strawman solution as necessary implementation measure.

A majority of the GNSO, including myself, expressed support for inclusion of IDN variants within the Trademark Clearinghouse, so that identical marks in simplified and traditional Chinese, for example, need not incur duplicate registration fees. The technology to implement this already exists in the Clearinghouse, all that is needed is an underlying policy directive or rule set.

The Thick WHOIS WG, which is examining the transition of all thin WHOIS registries to a thick model, intends to publish its Initial Report for

<sup>1</sup> See further FICPI's comments to this Initial Report

<sup>2</sup> Intellectual Property Constituency, where FICPI is a member



public comment in advance of ICANN 47 in Durban, South Africa in July 2013.

ICANN staff provided an update on the new gTLD program: The Trademark Clearinghouse sunrise services will not be operational until July 2013 and the claims services will not be operational until August 2013.

The following week included:

A meeting with updated information on the new **Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS)** system for initial domain disputes in the new system. Here, it was noted that: National Arbitration Forum (NAF) is announced as the first URS provider, and there will also soon be additional provider/s appointed<sup>3</sup>; during April – June 2013, system details, such as announcement page, interfaces, verification, will be published.

The joint **ccNSO / GNSO Council Meeting**, was an informative meeting on how the two organizations of ICANN work practically with certain issues, such as: Providing input and advice, often at short notice; the impact of gTLDs on ICANN; Global Internet Governance.

A public meeting with ICANN staff and registrar representatives informed that ICANN had now completed negotiations on a revised Registrar Accreditation Agreement which most if not all registrars are prepared to sign.

The **IPC** had its full meeting, where updates were presented on: Trademark Clearinghouse; URS; Strawman & LPR; Briefing on replacement of Whois protocol.

Finally, in the council's closing session dedicated to any other business, the Business Constituency (BC) reinitiated a discussion on **string confusion and singular versus plural TLDs**. In essence, the BC does not concur with the ICANN string similarity assessment panel

conclusion that singular and plural forms of TLDs are not visually confusing. The RySG did not specifically second the concern, but did express great interest in learning more about the specific standards the string similarity assessment panelists employed to reach that conclusion. In closing the session on any other business, the RySG also expressed concern for the perceived lack of interest and current level of inaction with respect to IDN variants.

***The next ICANN meeting (ICANN 47th) will take place in Durban, South Africa, July 13 – 18, 2013***

*[End of executive summary]*

<sup>3</sup>Asian Domain Name Dispute Resolution Centre (ADNDRC) was announced on April 20