ICANN 82 - Experimental NCSG Issue Forum - Part II

(Continuing NPOC & NCUC collaborative session at ICANN81 in Istanbul)

Applicant Support Program (ASP) for the Next Round of New gTLDs: Ongoing Discussion of Applications, Requirements, Non-Financial Applicant Support, and the Special Role of [back-end] Registry Service Providers

Tuesday, 11 March 2025, from 13:15 to 14:30 PT (local time, GMT+3) in Room 301

Speakers - Subject Matter Presenters

⇒ *Please provide slides and send them to us by Sunday (March 9th) 11h59 pm PST.*

1. Wisdom Donkor, Juan Rojas, Rafik Dammak (NCUC, NPOC and NCSG chair)
2. Pedro Lana (+ Onsite moderation)
3. Kathy Kleiman (+ Onsite moderation)
3. Namra Naseer
4. Gbééré Achille
5. Bolutife Adisa
6. Frank Anati
7. Emmanuel Vitus
8. Kroopa Shah
9. Amadeu Abril
10. Kristy Buckley (ICANN Staff)

    Mili Semlani will be the rapporteur and online moderation

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Description and Agenda

[2 min wait, to get people in the room]

1. **Rafik, Wisdom and Juan -** Chairs' Welcome - 3 min
2. Introduction
   a. **Pedro -** Brief summary of what we did in ICANN81 regarding the ASP, summarizing what was explained there, and what we plan to do in the next step - 3 min

b. **Kathy -** Difference between the Application Support Program and the New gTLD Program - 3 min
   c. Outlining the issues for today - 1 min
3. **Emmanuel** - Update from the Applicant Support Program - who is applying and from what regions. What regions still need applicants? - 5 minutes

   (Moving on to the New gTLD Application and its Requirements - time to dive into some of the key sections of the New gTLD Application itself.)

4. **Frank{Remote} and Namra**- Walking us through 3 applications from the 2012 round - showing us the various "public portions" of the New gTLD application and how some Applicants answered them (Kathy to help - website still exists) - 7 minutes
5. **Bolutife (NPOC) and Kristy (Staff)** - Non-Financial Applicant Support to help Applicants who qualify for New gTLDs plan for their New gTLDs and understand and write a strong New gTLD Application – what's the status of non-financial applicant support? So will be the Business, Legal, and Technical support ("non-financial") of the Applicant Support Program - 7 minutes
6. **Gbééré {Remote} and Kathy**- Introduction to Registry Service Providers: A major and key New gTLD Application Requirement - handling the technical aspects of the Registry. Why does someone intending to be a Registry need to be attentive to the requisite of having a back-end Registry (Registry Service Provider or RSP)? Why would an Applicant use an RSP? - 12 min
7. Who will be RSPs (back-end service providers) in the next round, and what services will they offer (and prices if they choose to share)
   a. **Amadeu {Remote} (CORE)** - High-level RSP issues from the perspective of a non-profit RSP - 7 min
   b. **Kroopa (Identity Digital) -** RSP certification, interaction of a Registry and an RSP, and what to look when searching for an RSP - 7 min
   c. Back and forth with RSP representatives/representatives - 5 min
8. Open Discussion - Q&A and Comments with RSPs present (open to questions across full session) - 10 min
9. Wrap-up - 3 min

⇒ *Thank you for sharing the highlights of your presentation in slide presentation. It will help those new to this area of technical policy, and create a slide deck easy to share later with those interested in the topic. (The ICANN81 slides are in active distribution!)*

Please send your slides to us by Sunday (March 9th) 11h59 pm PST, so we can have time to review and join them all in a single presentation. Quick note: rough slides are fine!

Summary and Methodology

Preparing phase:

NCSG members who will be presenting should study relevant sections of the Applicant Support Program Handbook (https://newgtldprogram.icann.org/en/application-rounds/round2/asp/handbook), the New gTLD Application (you'll have to use the 2012 version as the new application is still being finalized), and the Registry Service Provider Handbook (https://newgtldprogram.icann.org/sites/default/files/documents/rsp-handbook-17oct24-en.pdf) to prepare, and, when relevant, create a presentation summarizing the most relevant information.

The objective is to build and share knowledge within the non-commercial community and improve the leadership of our members in this area, while also clarifying potential doubts that could be relevant to non-commercial organizations applying for the ASP and for a new gTLD.

Those members should prepare and lead the presentation on separate topics about the ASP, mostly drawing from the new Applicant Support Handbook which was greatly improved with NCSG comments https://newgtldprogram.icann.org/en/application-rounds/round2/asp/handbook, and moving now (in this 2nd session) to discussing key aspects of the New gTLD Application, and thinking how noncommercial applicants for New gTLDs can find the "right fit" for a Back-End Registry Service Provider (also called an "RSP").

Everyone who agrees to present will also provide slides to the person coordinating the effort ahead of time (at least 3 days) to lay out what they plan to focus on - and before in presenting technical policy, it is very helpful for the audience to *see as well as hear* the details, terms, concepts and frameworks.

NCSG members should reach out to organizations who are planning to apply for the ASP and New gTLD Program, and collect questions they already have, so those doubts can be shared and debated in the session.

Agenda for the ICANN Meeting Website

1. Welcome - 3 min
2. Introduction - 7 min
3. Update from the Applicant Support Program (Emmanuel) - 5 min
4. New gTLD Application and its Requirements (Namra & Frank) - 7 min
5. Non-Financial Applicant Support (Kristy Buckley/Staff and Bolutife) - 7 min
6. Registry Service Providers (Kathy & Gbeere - Introduction): A major and key New gTLD Application Requirement - 12 min
7. What to look for when choosing an RSP, and what are the high-level issues? (Kroopa/Core and Amadeu/Identity Digital) - 14 min
    a. Q&A with RSPs - 5 min
8. Open discussion - Questions and comments - 10 min
9. Wrap-up - 3 min

ICANN 81 Istanbul - Experimental[1] [2] NCUC Issue Forum Workshop

Applicant Support Program (ASP) for the new gTLDs

[This is a reminder of the previous workshop - For the ICANN 82 Session, see below]

Speakers: Staff Member(s); Kathy Kleiman; Pedro Lana; Bolutife Adisa; Michaela Nakayama Shapiro; Frank Anati; Houda CHIHI; Emmanuel Vitus

Description and Agenda

1. Welcome and overview of the NCUC Issue Forum - Benjamin - 2 min
2. Introduction – (Pedro) - Experimental NCUC Issues Forum/Workshop, we're learning and teaching. At the end, we will know the Applicant Support Program Handbook better, and have knowledge and a set of slides we can all use to share its requirements with our community members. - 5 min
     1. But first context: Difference between the Application Support Program and the overall New gTLD Program
     2. Purpose of this NCUC Issue Forum
3. [Pedro: May I ask PIR to present this section with me? They are a sponsor of this program, right? If so, who is the right person to ask (who works most closely with NCUC?] Why would an Org be interested in applying for the New gTLD Program? The Registry must be self-sustaining, and this is an opportunity to present a) some good examples and b) some likely bad examples. (Kathy) - *(10 min)*
     1. Discussion - What type of communities (generally) might be most positively affected and probably most interested in having a new gTLD?
     2. Assuming the organization is interested in proceeding: What does your organization need to do to *apply* for the Applicant Support Program (What does the Handbook say?)
4. Sections of the Handbook:
     1. Who can apply for the Applicant Support Program, and particularly, which categories resonate with the NCSG, NPOC, and NCUC? Big picture – who must you be (what type of entity) and who can't you be? Combining parts of 4.5.1 and 4.3.1 as the Handbook *require*s certain types of entities *and bars* certain types of actions (even by qualifying entities). (Highlighting nonprofits, Indigenous/Tribal Orgs, others) (Michaela) - *5 min with 2 or 3 slides*
     2. How do you prove you're an eligible entity and what is an "Equivalency Determination"? (You may need to talk with Kathy and ICANN Staff.) ? (Frank Anati) - *5 min with 2 or 3 slides*
     3. How do you pass the "General Business Due Diligence" Check? ASP Handbook Section 4.1 (Houda Chihi - suggestion) - *5 min with 2 or 3 slides*
     4. How do you pass the Financial Need Test and Financial Viability Test? Handbook 4.3 and 4.4 (NCSG Member 5) - *5 min with 2 or 3 slides* (Emmanuel Vitus - suggestion)
     5. Money: How much do you have to pay to apply for the Applicant Support Program? Assuming you are accepted, how much do you get from the Applicant Support Program for your New gTLD Application? Are the amounts absolutely assured or is there more we should know? Briefly, what is a bid credit? - *5 min with 2 or 3 slides* (Bolutife Adisa)
5. Meet in small groups to fill out your application for ASP (10 min)
6. ICANN Staff and "non-financial support". For the groups accepted to the ASP, what does the non-financial support look like to help them prepare their New gTLD Application? (including business, technical, and legal) Note: NCSG worked very, very hard for these additional "non-financial" benefits and services (10 min).
     1. What is ICANN doing to reach the communities represented in this workshop?
     2. And how can NCUC and NCSG help?