Outline GNSO Council/SG&C Chair and Board Brainstorming Session

Background
At the GNSO Council SPS, Board and Council interaction was identified as a key topic of mutual interest. It was noted that in the past there has been little dialogue between the Board and the GNSO Council outside of ICANN meetings, and generally only in a formal manner such as through correspondence which may cause unnecessary delay. Similarly, it was noted that there is **<u>currently no joint problem-solving mode</u>** – each group works in its own silo until it is time to pass it on or pass it back to the next in line. Fortunately we have seen some new initiatives that try to break that mold, such as the informal consultation that took place in the context of the EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 12, the currently ongoing EPDP Phase 2 (SSAD) consultation as well as the participation of Board liaisons in recent EPDPs and even small teams.

Purpose of Session
Brainstorm ideas about how the Board and Council can more effectively communicate in order to facilitate joint problem solving as well as ensuring more transparency and predictability in the post-Council approval phase of the PDP.

Before Beginning the Brainstorming
Question: At a high level, is anyone uncomfortable with discussions around evolving the manner in which Council and Board interact? If so, please share your concerns so they can be taken into consideration as the group brainstorms.

<u>Note</u>: Not looking to change roles and responsibilities outlined in the bylaws, nor is this discussion about finding ways around rules. Rather, this session will focus on the policy life-cycle and a brainstorm focused on identifying communication gaps and possible remedies.

If concerns arise during this session, please flag them with as much specificity as possible.

Current Board-Council Interaction
Question: When analyzing the policy life-cycle, do you see gaps that more effective communication might help address?

<u>Note:</u> Communication is two-way, and possible gaps may be between SG/C and Council; Council to Board; Board to Council.

Question: What are the obstacles to address these gaps and how can these be overcome?

Question(s): Should further interaction be built into the process as part of the handover of GNSO Council recommendations to the ICANN Board post Council adoption? If so, what might that look like?

Question(s): How do these suggestions match up against the concerns raised at the beginning of the session? Do you have additional concerns?

Transparency
Question: How can additional transparency be introduced in the post-Council adoption part of the PDP?

Question(s): How do these suggestions match up against the concerns raised at the beginning of the session? Do you have additional concerns?

Evaluating Best Interest of ICANN Community/ICANN org
Question: How can the Council facilitate the Board's consideration of whether adoption of PDP recommendations are in the best interest of the ICANN community or ICANN org?

Question: How do these suggestions match up against the concerns raised at the beginning of the session? Do you have additional concerns?