ICANN Update

AfriNIC 14
Dar es Salam, Tanzania
8-10 June 2011
Anne-Rachel Inne, ICANN

Next ICANN meeting

Future meeting locations

- Recommendations now being accepted for ICANN meetings to be held in 2013 in:
- Asia/Australia/Pacific
- **Africa**
- Latin America/Caribbean

Recent Activities at ICANN

Annual Report

Highlights achievements

 Affirmation of Commitments as a major step toward the internationalization of ICANN as ICANN further integrates into the global community
- Internationalized Domain Names – the fast track process has been a success as countries and territories began requesting registration of their names as
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Annual Report (2)

- Expanding ICANN Community – the Council of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) has expanded as has the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)
- DNNSEC laid the foundation for a new generation of innovative cyber security solutions by creating a global authentication platform

ICANN's Public Comment Area

Issues under Discussion at GNSO

- Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy (IRTP)

- Post-Expiration Domain Name Recovery (PEDNR)

- Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA)

- Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) Issue Report

- Discussion Paper on the creation of best practices to address the abusive registrations of domain names

- WHOIS

- Others – currently there are over 20 projects underway

Internet Policies (1)

- Upcoming approval of the New gTLD Program
- The Board intends to complete the process for final approval of the New gTLD implementation program at a meeting of the ICANN Board on Monday, 20 June 2011 at the next ICANN public meeting
- ICANN's next public meeting will be held in Singapore, June 2011

Internet Policies (2)

- Endorsement of all 27 recommendations made by the Accountability and Transparency Review Team

- The Board also requested ICANN staff to prepare implementation plans

- The period for accepting public comments about the process for creating new GNSO constituencies was extended

Strategic Plan

- ICANN Posted its Strategic Plan for July 2011-June 2014

- This version of the Strategic Plan includes extensive community feedback, including a 60-day Public Comment period

- As part of ICANN's planning process, the adopted Strategic Plan guides the development of the FY12 Operating Plan and Budget

Strategic plan timeline

2012-2015 Strategic Plan Draft Timeline

May 2011
Kick-Off
Development
Process

Jun 2011
Collect Input
@ Singapore
Meeting

Jul 2011
Open Public
Comment Forum
for Input

Sep 2011
Post Draft Strategic
Plan

Nov 2011
Post Proposed
Plan

Dec 2011
Submit for
Board
Approval

May-Jun 2011
Request SO/AC
Consultations

Jun-Jul 2011
Exec & Board
Workshops on
Strategic Plan

Sep 2011
SO/AC
Consultations

Oct 2011
Collect Feedback
@ Dakar Meeting

Dec 2011
Post Approved
Strategic Plan

Released Security, Stability and Resiliency (SSR) Plans for Comment

- The foundation of ICANN's role in security, stability and resiliency of the Internet's unique identifiers,

- Provide an overview of the Internet ecosystem and ICANN's place in it,

- Describe ICANN's operational priorities in SSR for the coming fiscal year commencing in July 2011, and

- Distinguish between ICANN's operational priorities, areas in which ICANN is a collaborator and facilitator, and areas in which ICANN is an observer or has awareness on the activities of others in the ecosystem regarding the Internet's unique identifiers

New gTLDs

- Applicant Guidebook – May 2011 is out
- Six Explanatory Memoranda on various issues identified in the Board/Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) consultations
- Summaries and analyses of public comment on the prior Applicant Guidebook
- Most recent ICANN response to the GAC Indicative Scorecard
- Most recent GAC response to scorecard

Important note re: new gTLDs

- Numerous changes to current version

- A number of the evaluation questions have been edited to provide more detail. In most cases, the substance of the question and criteria has not changed significantly

Application Window (60 days)

Register → Request Application Slot → Wire Deposit → Complete Application → Submit Application, Fee & String

Important Notes:

- Wire transfers and validation may take days or weeks to complete

- The remaining $180,000 must be received by the end of the Application Window or application could be rejected

gTLD Program Timeline

4 mos.	2 mos.	~2 mo.		~5 mos.	

Communications Campaign → **Application Window** → **Quiet Period** → **Application Data Posted** → **Initial Evaluation** → **Initial Evaluation Results Posted**
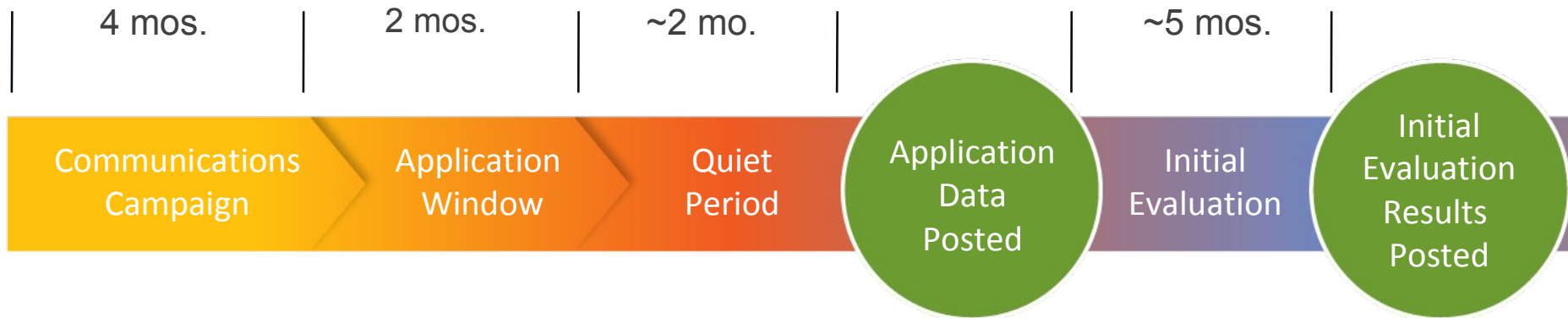
- String similarity
- DNS Stability
- Geographical Names
- Technical/Operational
- Financial
- Registry Services

gTLD Program Timeline

Initial Evaluation Results Posted

~ 2 mos.

Pre-Delegation

Delegation
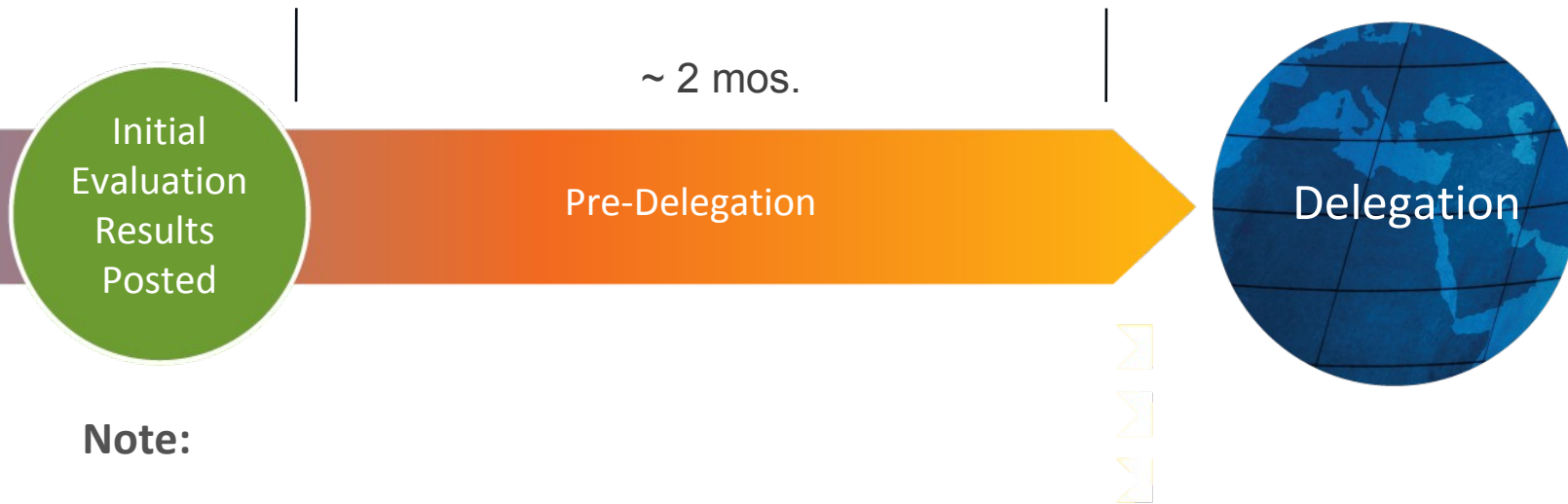
Note:

- Quickest path through the Evaluation Process is approximately 9 months after Application Window closes

- The lifecycle for a highly complex application could be much longer, such as 20 months

gTLD Program Timeline

Initial Evaluation Results Posted

Extended Evaluation – ~ 5 months

Dispute Resolution – ~ 5 months

String Contention – ~ 6 months

Pre-Delegation

Delegation
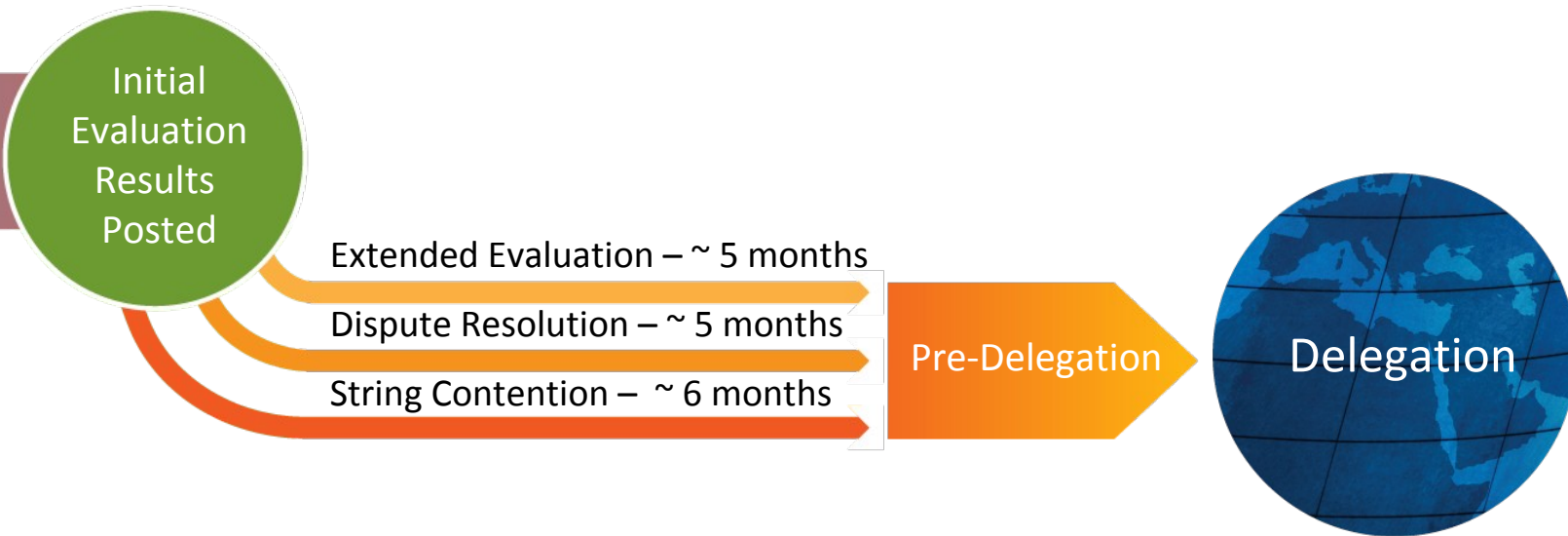
New gTLD Program Operational Readiness

Components of Operational Readiness

Processes	System (TAS)	Customer Support	Evaluation Panel
Design and build of processes necessary to conduct the full application lifecycle	Design and build of tool that automates functions of the program (accepting apps, performing evaluations, reporting)	Establishment of a customer support center to help potential applicants and applicants with the application process	Selection, contract execution, onboarding, and training of evaluation panels to perform evaluation of applications

New gTLD Program Operational Readiness

Status Update

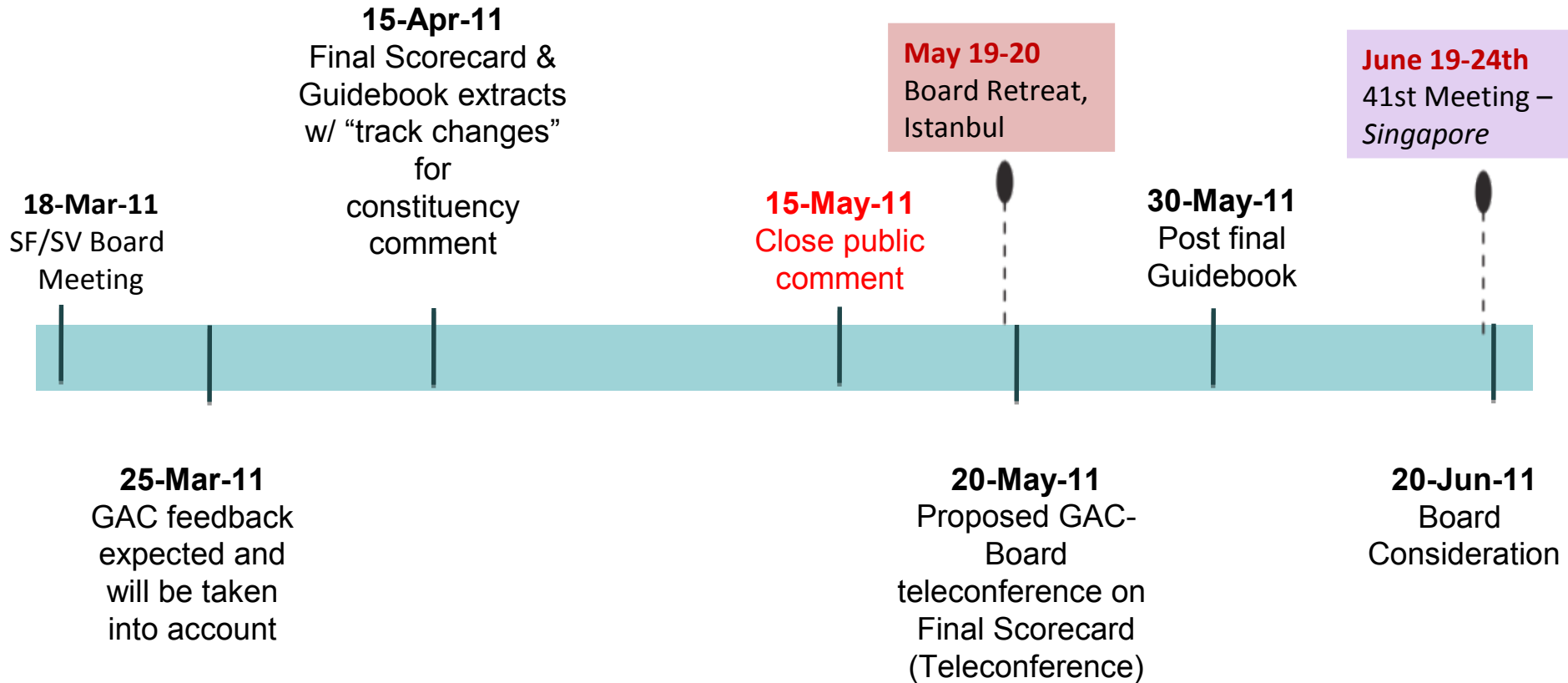|	
Processes	• Simulation planned for Q3
System (TAS)	• Targeting Q3 completion of TAS
Customer Support	• Support in place for communications campaign • 24/7/365 comprehensive support (60 days application)
Evaluation Panel	• Evaluation panels will be announced soon

Applicant Guidebook Timelines

15-Apr-11
Final Scorecard &
Guidebook extracts
w/ "track changes"
for
constituency
comment

May 19-20
Board Retreat,
Istanbul

June 19-24th
41st Meeting –
Singapore

18-Mar-11
SF/SV Board
Meeting

15-May-11
Close public
comment

30-May-11
Post final
Guidebook

25-Mar-11
GAC feedback
expected and
will be taken
into account

20-May-11
Proposed GAC-
Board
teleconference on
Final Scorecard
(Teleconference)

20-Jun-11
Board
Consideration

Sources of Information
Applicant Guide Book

- **Current Applicant Guidebook – Discussion Draft**

  http://www.icann.org/en/topics/new-gtlds/rfp-clean-30may11-en.pdf

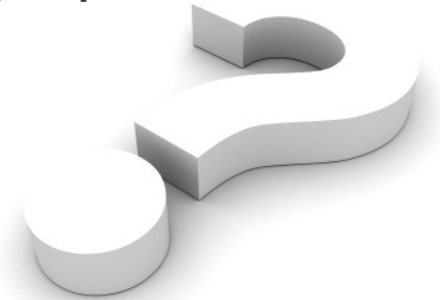- **FAQs - http://icann.org/en/topics/new-gtlds/strategy-faq.htm**

- **Questions? newgtld@icann.org**

- **Customer Service webpage - coming**

- **TAS webpage - coming**

GNSO Sources of information

- Sign up for the Monthly Policy Update http://www.icann.org/en/topics/policy/

- Attend the Policy Update Webinar (date to be confirmed – just prior to ICANN meeting in Singapore) www.icann.org /gnso.icann.org

IDN variants

IDN variants: why this project?

- Long standing request from a number of IDN user communities.
- Board instructed staff to develop an issues report on the subject.
  http://www.icann.org/en/minutes/resolutions-25sep10-en.htm#2.5

Definition of variant TLDs

- No universally accepted definition.
- In the proposal, the following* is used:

> "Variant characters occur where a single conceptual character can be identified with two or more different Unicode Code Points with graphic representations that may or may not be visually similar. IDN variant TLDs contain one or more characters that have such variants."

* Based on definition from RFC 3743

IDN variant TLDs as of today

- An applicant may declare variant strings for its TLD in its application.

- No variant TLD strings are delegated until variant management solutions are developed and implemented.

What is being proposed?

- Conduct up to six study cases with participants from the community:
  1) Arabic
  2) Chinese
  3) Cyrillic
  4) Devanagari
  5) Greek
  6) Latin

Case study composition

- Each study case composed of community members* experienced in:
  - DNS & IDNA
  - Security
  - Registry/Registrar operations
  - Policy
  - Linguistics
  - Community representatives

* Some members may be shared across case study teams

Avoid reinventing the wheel

- Survey of current TLDs' policy on IDN variants.

- Coordination with other groups working on the subject (DNSEXT, JIG, etc.)

- Use documents available from other groups as input.

Outcome (1)

1.   Create a glossary of terms vetted with technical and linguistic communities.

2.   Identify challenges (requirements) of IDN variant TLDs based on:
   1. linguistic accuracy,
   2. technical feasibility & accuracy,
   3. usability (including minimize user confusion),
   4. accessibility, and
   5. security and stability

Outcome (2)

- Issues Report from each case study

- Issues Report integrating common and case-specific issues

Timeline

Task	Time
Goal setting	31 March 2011
Form case study teams	06 June 2011
Working sessions at Singapore	18 June 2011
Complete case studies	30 September 2011
Synthesize issues across cases	30 November 2011
Issues report	15 December 2011

Help is wanted

- ICANN is recruiting volunteers for the case studies.
- Send your statement of interest by 19 May to idnvarianttlds@icann.org, see details in: http://icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-20apr11-en.htm

Asante

Maswali?