

Subject: [DIDP] EWG on gTLD Directory Services comments/input/sessions should be public
Date: Wednesday, June 26, 2013 8:27:15 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: George Kirikos
To: didp@icann.org
Category: DIDP

Hello,

According to ICANN's recent announcement regarding proposals to reform WHOIS, the Expert Working Group on gTLD Directory Services' Initial Report:

<https://www.icann.org/en/news/announcements/announcement-3-24jun13-en.htm>

there exists both an Online Questionnaire (powered by Survey Monkey), and comments by email (to input-to-ewg@icann.org). However, there does not appear to be any public and contemporaneous (live, not lagged) archive for either of those sources of input.

Survey Monkey does provide the technical ability to publicly disclose all responses, see:

http://help.surveymonkey.com/articles/en_US/kb/Can-I-share-survey-results-with-others

This should be done (unredacted).

Of course, comments to ICANN by email (if they were sent to a mailing list) have long been able to be posted/archived on ICANN's website in real-time, as has been the norm for many years.

I hereby request that both forms of input be made public, in their entirety (unredacted) and in real-time, particularly given the policy-making nature of these inputs.

It is an odd situation indeed that there are more public comments available via public blogs like Slashdot.org

<http://tech.slashdot.org/story/13/06/26/0129256/icann-working-group-seeks-to-kill-whois>

(126 comments at the time of this email) than exist at present on ICANN's official public website. For controversial topics like these, not having a central and public archive would permit those with a certain agenda to ignore real input and criticism, since they can claim they never received any such opposing input. While that might serve the agenda of those people, it does not meet the high standards demanded by ICANN's bylaws.

Furthermore, page 48 of the initial report mentions various sessions (both in-person, and by telephone). I request that all recordings and/or transcripts of those sessions also be made public, in their entirety (unredacted), as well as any and all mailing list contents (or other intersession communications). The complete set of these does not appear to be linked to via the Wiki (there are simply some very brief session summaries; overly brief given that, for example, the London session of March 21-22, 2013 lasted two days, apparently, and included paid travel for participants, paid for ultimately by ICANN stakeholders including domain name registrants).

Article III, Section 1 of the ICANN Bylaws state that "ICANN and its constituent bodies shall operate to the maximum extent feasible in an open and transparent manner and consistent with procedures designed to ensure fairness." This does not appear to be happening, in relation to this Expert Working Group. I ask that you correct this situation by disclosing the above materials.

Sincerely,

George Kirikos

Redacted

<http://www.leap.com/>