

APNIC 35
CONFERENCE

SINGAPORE
25 February - 1 March 2013

The points which need to be clarified in PDP

Policy SIG Chair and Co-Chairs



What is presented?

- Even though we have excellent PDP and SIG guidelines, some points are still not clear or not practical from meeting management perspective
- In this meeting, Chair and Co-Chairs would like to ask the community for comments about these points

We have 3 types of rules

1. Policy development process
 - APNIC numbered document (APNIC-111)
 - Part of APNIC policy
 - Policy proposal is required to change
2. SIG guideline
 - Working document
 - No official procedure to change, but can be changed with community
3. Current practice
 - NOT documented !!

Clarifications are needed for

1. The procedure for accepting policy proposals
2. The timing of calling consensus (or not consensus) in the OPM
3. Consensus at the AMM
4. The procedure if “substantial objections” raised in the comment period
5. The length of comment period after the meeting
6. The timing of Chair elections and Co-Chair elections
7. Eligible voters for Chair elections and Co-chair elections

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25 February - 1 March 2013

The procedure for accepting policy proposals

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Current rules

- ❑ Sec. 4 of PDP document says
 - A formal proposal paper must be submitted to the SIG mailing list and to the SIG Chair four weeks before the start of the OPM.
- ❑ Sec 2.4 of SIG Guideline says
 - The responsibilities of the Chair are listed below:
 - Before an APNIC meeting
 - ✓ Read submitted proposals
 - ✓ Accept or reject proposals for discussion at the forthcoming SIG (and suggest an alternative forum if the topic is not relevant to that particular SIG)
 - ✓ After coordinating with APNIC Secretariat, announce policy proposals to mailing list
- ❑ Sec 2.7.1 of SIG Guideline also says
 - After a minimum of four weeks of discussion on the appropriate SIG mailing list, the proposal is presented at the appropriate SIG session at the APNIC Open Policy Meeting.

Current practice

- Chair ask for sending proposals to policy@apnic.net which is the APNIC Secretariat ticketing system (or through Web form) 4 weeks before the start of the OPM
- After reviewing, Chair announce proposals to Policy SIG mailing list

Why it is a problem

- Proposals should be sent to Policy SIG chairs or APNIC secretariat, not to Policy SIG mailing list directly, as Chairs can check them
- Chairs need some days to just check proposals
 - In some cases, Chairs also need to reach to authors to make sure the proposals have clear problem statement and clear solutions
- The deadline should be specified more clearly
 - Does “the day 4 weeks before the OPM” mean before the deadline or after the deadline?
 - What time is the deadline? (5PM? Midnight?)
 - In which time zone?

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25 February - 1 March 2013

The timing of calling consensus (or not consensus) in the OPM

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Current rules and practice

- ❑ Sec. 4 of PDP document says
 - Consensus must be reached first at the SIG session and afterwards at the Member Meeting for the process to continue.

- ❑ SIG Guideline says
 - *Nothing about the timing*

- ❑ Current practice
 - Chairs decide just after asking consensus

Why it is a problem

- Chairs may need internal discussion before deciding
 - In particular, if there is a few objections

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25 February - 1 March 2013

Consensus at the AMM

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Current rules and practice

- ❑ Sec. 4 of PDP document says
 - Consensus must be reached first at the SIG session and afterwards at the Member Meeting for the process to continue.

- ❑ SIG Guideline says
 - *Nothing about the timing*

- ❑ Current practice
 - *Same as PDP document*

Why it is a problem

- Not real problem, but not sure effective
- Historically, different SIGs may propose conflicting policies in same meeting
- Now, Policy SIG is only SIG discussing policies
- If members have objections, they can participate in the OPM since the AMM and OPM are same week and same venue

The procedure if “substantial objections” raised in the comment period



Current rules and practice

- ❑ Sec. 4 of PDP document says
 - *If it is observed that there have been "substantial objections" raised to the proposed policy, consensus is not confirmed and the proposal will not be implemented. The SIG will then discuss (either on the mailing list or in the SIG) whether to pursue the proposal or withdraw it.*

- ❑ SIG Guideline says
 - *Nothing about it*

- ❑ Current practice
 - *No such case at least in last 5 years*

Why it is a problem

- Decision whether pursue or not should be done before next meeting (otherwise we would miss another meeting)
- It is very difficult to decide on the mailing list if there are objections
- Who will decide? The mailing list itself cannot decide.....

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25 February - 1 March 2013

The length of comment period after the meeting

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Current rules and practice

- ❑ Sec. 4 of PDP document says
 - *Proposals that have reached consensus at the OPM will be circulated on the appropriate SIG mailing list for a period of eight weeks. This is known as the "comment period".*

- ❑ SIG Guideline says
 - *none*

- ❑ Current practice is
 - Same as PDP document

Why it is a problem

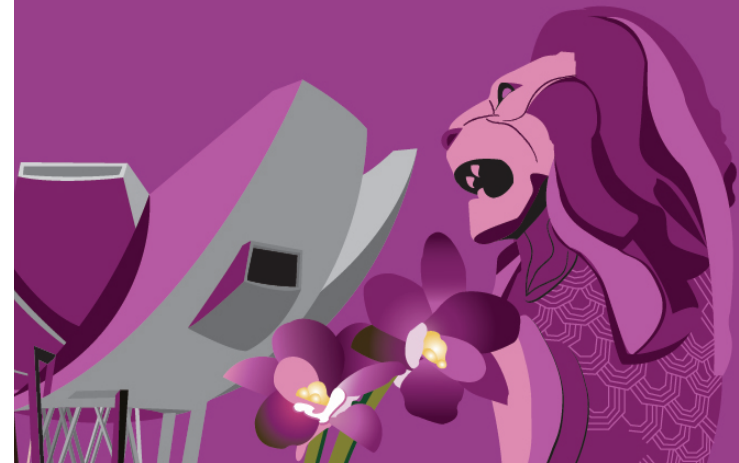
- Isn't 8 weeks too long for comment period?
 - It is longer than discussion period
 - In some cases, same opposition was sent in the comment period, then there was no further feedback after somebody showed it was already known in the meeting and the community thought it is minor objection

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25 February - 1 March 2013

The timing of Chair and Co-chairs election

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Current rules and practice

- ❑ PDP document says
 - *none*

- ❑ Sec 2.6 of SIG Guideline says
 - *Chair elections and Co-Chair elections occur in alternate years.*

- ❑ Current practice is
 - One of Co-Chairs election occur in same years as Chair elections
 - Another Co-Chairs election occur in alternate years

Why it is a problem

- Neither SIG guideline nor current practice has actual problem
- These two should be aligned with each other

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25 February - 1 March 2013

Eligible voters for Chair elections and Co-chair elections

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Current rules

- ❑ Sec 1 of PDP document says
 - Anyone may attend the meetings and participate in discussions and the decision making

- ❑ Sec 2.6 of SIG Guideline says
 - *Voting will take place by a count of a show of hands*

Current practice

- Everybody in the Policy SIG session can participate in the voting and are counted
- Remote hub participants are not counted in last election, but counted in second last election
- Remote participants through the Internet are not counted

Why it is a problem

- Eligible voters should be defined and documented!!
- “Anyone may attend “ has two aspects
 - We may need to consider adding remote participants to eligible voters
 - We may need to consider prevention for fraud

Comments?