

A Proposal for a Revised Policy Development Process (prop-001-v001)

APNIC16 – Address Policy SIG
Seoul, Korea
20 August 2003

The Story So Far.....

- APNIC15
 - Conducted a review of current policy making process
 - Received major input from Randy Bush
 - Consensus on main points of change
 - Secretariat tasked to write up revised process
- One month before APNIC16
 - Circulated proposal to SIG ML
 - <http://www.apnic.net/mailing-lists/sig-policy/archive/2003/06/msg00001.html>



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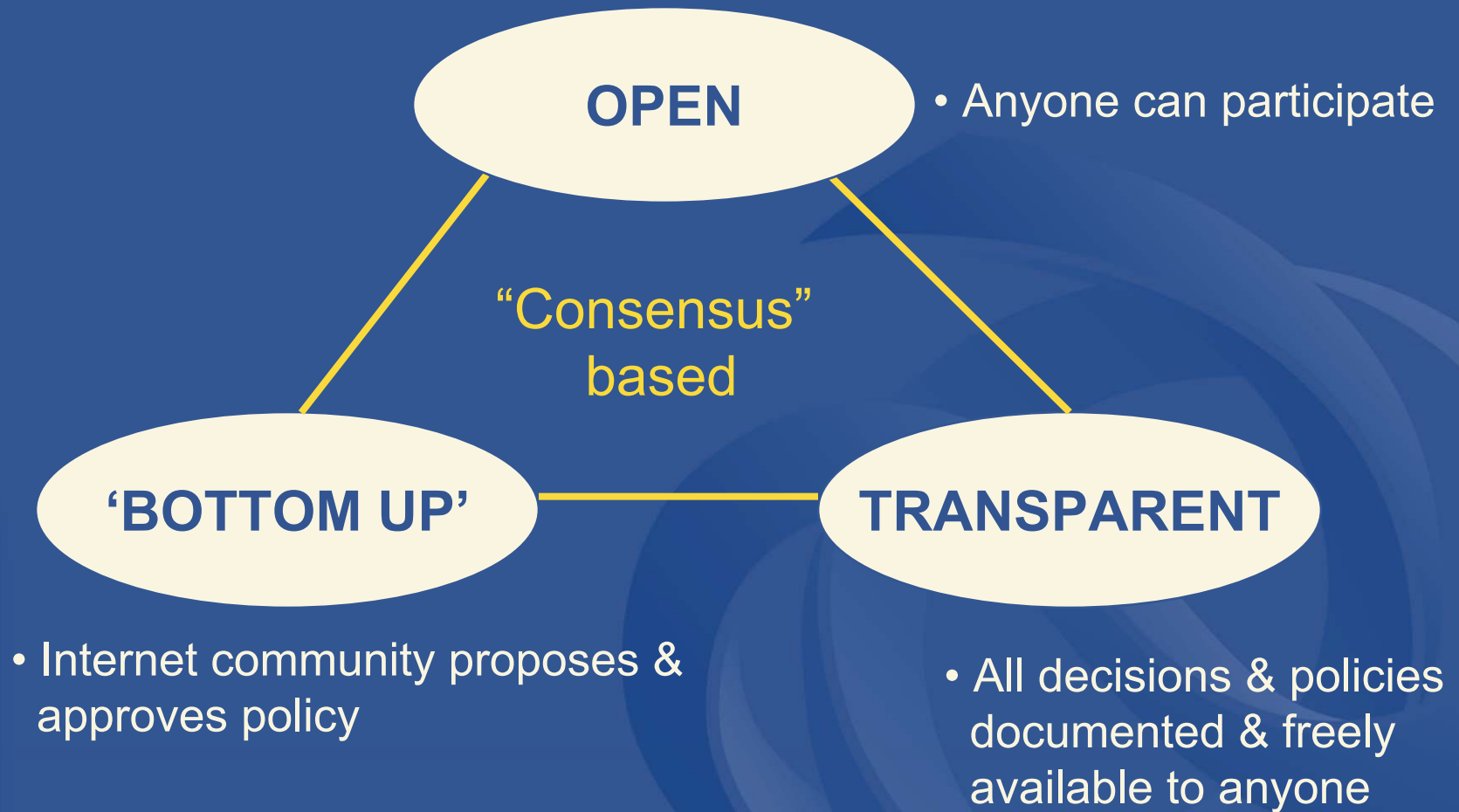
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Current Policy Development Process

Definition – “Consensus”

- OED definition
 - “General agreement in opinion”
- Show of hands to judge ‘general agreement’
 - Often a count is taken to assist but is not essential
 - Those in favour, those against and abstentions
 - Each attendee has one vote
- If difficult to judge, unlikely to be consensus
 - Final call by chair

Principles of Policy Development Process



Elements of the Process

WGs: semi formal, volunteer group tasked by a SIG to work on a particular project until completed eg. 'Broadband'

Member Meeting

MM: forum specific to APNIC business eg. fee structure & endorsement of policy decisions

Working Groups

Open Policy Meeting & Mailing Lists

Special Interest Groups

SIGs: Formal groups which discuss broad areas of policy relevant to the APNIC internet community

BOFs: Informal meetings to exchange ideas eg. CA BOF, Need to hold at least one to form new SIG

Birds of a Feather



APNIC Executive Council (EC) Role

- By-Laws state EC
 - ‘Act on behalf of the Members in the interval between Member Meetings’
 - Member meeting can review EC decisions
 - EC may act on policy matters
 - For example, those that are time critical, or as point of appeal or in response to legal judgements

How Does it Work? Self Regulation in Practice Today





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Summary from APNIC15

Problems (Mailing list & APNIC15)

- Some key 'stakeholders' are missing at face to face meeting
- Timing and availability of proposals not sufficient
- Culturally diverse region where English is not native language



Objectives of Proposal

- Increase understanding of policy proposals
- Increase participation of stakeholders in community
- Promote more discussion on the mailing lists



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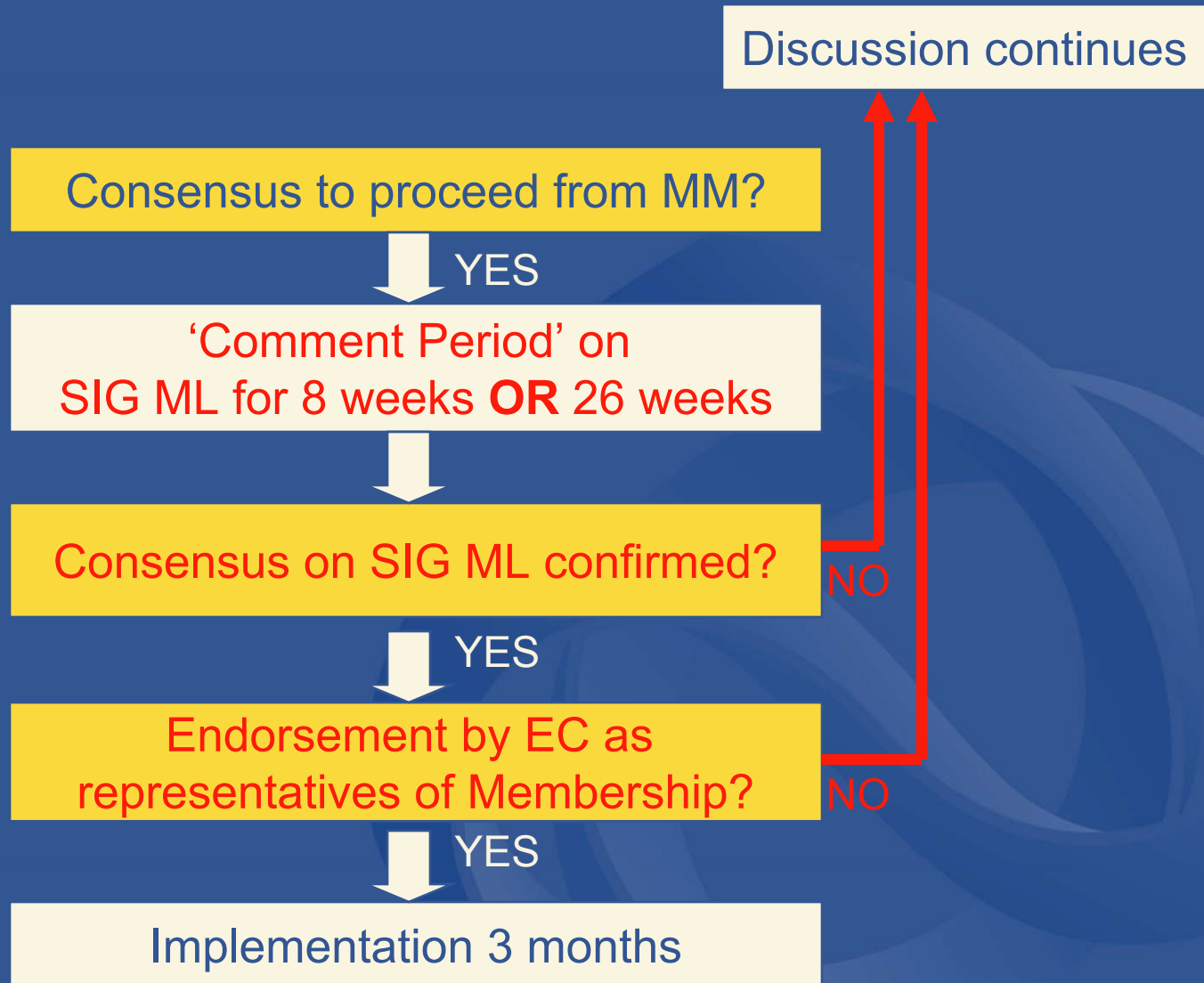
Proposed Changes to Policy Development Process

Incorporating feedback from APNIC15

Proposed Changes to the Process



Proposed Changes to the Process



Summary of Proposed Changes

1. Text proposal to SIG ML
 - One month before the meeting
2. ‘Comment period’ on SIG ML after meeting
 - 2 proposals for the length of time for ‘comment period’ (next slide)
3. Final endorsement from EC



Options – Which is Most Appropriate for Region? (Choose One Option)

- **Option A** – ‘comment period’
 - 8 weeks after meeting on ML
- **Option B** – ‘comment period’
 - 26 weeks after meeting on ML
 - Basic idea is to allow for comments until one month before the next meeting

Options – Which is Most Appropriate for Region? (Choose One Option)

- **Option A** – ‘comment period’
 - 28 weeks total time to complete process
 - 4 weeks before meeting on ML
 - 1 week of meeting
 - **8 weeks after meeting on ML**
 - 3 weeks next EC meeting
 - 12 weeks for implementation
- **Option B** – ‘comment period’
 - 46 weeks total time to complete process
 - 4 weeks before meeting on ML
 - 1 week of meeting
 - **26 weeks after meeting on ML**
 - 3 weeks next EC meeting
 - 12 weeks for implementation

Feedback from SANOG2 – Questions and Comments

- Can the mailing list override the decision of the members?
 - Consensus can be overturned if ‘substantial objections’ are made
- How do you judge consensus on a mailing list that is dormant?
 - Consensus is maintained unless ‘substantial objections’ are raised
 - Ultimate call is with the chair
- 4 week ‘comment period’ on the ML after the meeting is enough



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Questions and Comments?

