

## ICANN Community Leadership Digest



The ICANN org Policy Development Support function publishes this twice-weekly digest to help ICANN community leaders track requests and follow updates.

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### Information Sharing

#### **NEW: ICANN70 Will Be Held as Virtual Community Forum** **Announcement**

The ICANN Board has made the decision to convene ICANN70 as a Virtual Public Meeting due to the continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This ICANN Public Meeting was initially planned to be held in Cancún, Mexico. In consultation with community leaders, the dates have been modified, and the ICANN70 Virtual Community Forum is now scheduled to be held **22-25 March 2021**.

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#### **DUE FRIDAY: Revised Operational Design Phase Concept Paper**

**From:** Theresa Swinehart, Senior Vice President, Global Domains & Strategy

ICANN org has shared a revised version of the [Operational Design Phase Concept Paper](#). The new version follows community consultation during ICANN69, including written feedback by a number of community groups.

The concept paper proposes an Operational Design Phase (ODP) that is to become part of the policy and implementation life cycle. The ICANN organization will conduct the ODP for consensus policy recommendations that are approved by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council. The purpose of the ODP is to provide the Board with relevant information to decide, as required by the Bylaws, whether a recommendation is in the best interest of the ICANN community or ICANN.

**Please provide your input by Friday, 22 January 2021, to [mary.wong@icann.org](mailto:mary.wong@icann.org).**

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#### **REMINDER: ICANN Continues the Pandemic Internet Access Reimbursement Program**

Interested community members must apply in advance of ICANN70, and those who meet the eligibility requirements will be selected to participate. **The application deadline is Friday, 5 March 2021 at 23:59 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)**. The application process will open 8 February 2021 and program details are available [here](#).

The goal of this program is to facilitate participation in ICANN Public Meetings during this global

pandemic. It offers community members who have limited Internet capacity financial assistance to increase their Internet bandwidth.

[Learn more.](#)

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**REMINDER: Request for Community Selection Panel Participants – 2021 ICANN Community Excellence Award Program**

**From:** David Olive, Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support

On 1 December 2020, Supporting Organization and Advisory Committee chairs received an email request to provide up to two members from their respective group to help choose the recipient of the 2021 ICANN Community Excellence Award. **The deadline to provide names to [david.olive@icann.org](mailto:david.olive@icann.org) is Monday, 25 January 2021.**

The 2021 ICANN Community Excellence Award will be presented during ICANN71 in June 2021. A community selection panel will be formed to review the nominations and select the award recipient. Ideally, panelists will serve a maximum of two consecutive terms on the selection panel to ensure diversity and equal opportunity among community members. The time commitment for the selection panel includes weekly one-hour calls between the end of March through June 2021.

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**REMINDER: FY22 Additional Budget Requests Due Friday, 29 January 2021**

ICANN org has launched the FY22 Additional Budget Request process. This process pertains to a dedicated part of the overall ICANN annual budget that is set aside to fund specific requests from the community for activities that are not already included in the recurring ICANN budget.

**Submissions are due on Friday, 29 January 2021 at 23:59 UTC to [planning@icann.org](mailto:planning@icann.org).**

[Learn more.](#)

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**REMINDER: Call for SOs/ACs to Nominate Fellowship Program Mentors and Selection Committee Members**

**From:** Sally Costerton, Senior Vice President, Global Stakeholder Engagement

ICANN has [announced](#) a call for nominees to volunteer to serve as mentors to the Fellowship Program and as members to its Selection Committee. There will be a total of seven mentors and seven Selection Committee members, and each group is welcome to nominate one individual for each role.

**Interested Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees should select their respective Fellowship Program mentor and Selection Committee representative by Sunday, 31 January 2021 and notify [fellowshipconsultation@icann.org](mailto:fellowshipconsultation@icann.org).** Individual self-nominations will not be considered.

Criteria for mentors and Selection Committee members can be found [here](#).

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**REMINDER: Volunteers Needed for Advisory Group on ICANN's North America Stakeholder Engagement Plan**

**From:** Naela Sarras, Vice President, Global Stakeholder Engagement, North America

Community members are invited to join a short-term regional advisory group, that will help advise the GSE North America team on the development of the next iteration of the North America Stakeholder Engagement Plan. This effort seeks community input to enhance the important work of stakeholder engagement across North America by actively soliciting input into ICANN policy and work processes.

This advisory group will be time-limited (February - May 2021), will include two webinars, and be directed toward answering specific questions. With help from the community, the team hopes to surface implementable ideas with measurable impact to enhance engagement.

**Kindly send your reply with one or two named volunteers for this activity by Friday, 12 February 2021. Please send your reply to [naela.sarras@icann.org](mailto:naela.sarras@icann.org) and [joe.catapano@icann.org](mailto:joe.catapano@icann.org).**

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**REMINDER: Nomination Period for the ICANN Community Excellence Award Now Open**

**From:** David Olive, Senior Vice President, Policy Development Support

The nomination period for the ICANN Community Excellence Award 2020 is now open. The deadline for submissions is **Monday, 29 March 2021**, and the winner(s) will be announced during ICANN71. The ICANN Community Excellence Award recognizes ICANN community members who substantively contribute to policymaking within the ICANN ecosystem and who are deeply invested in developing consensus-based solutions within ICANN's multistakeholder model. Learn more about the [nomination process](#) and **submit your nominations [here](#).**

[Priority 2 Policy Recommendations for ICANN Board Consideration from EPDP Phase 2](#)

**Close Date:** Friday, 22 January 2021

[Draft FY22-26 Operating & Financial Plan and Draft FY22 Operating Plan & Budget](#)

**Close Date:** Monday, 15 February 2021

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