

OFB Presentation – Apr.26, 2021

Report back on response to comments re:
FY22-25 budget

Total of 218 comments classified under 9 themes

Total of 19 responses to ALAC comments (some
combined)

Comment themes – no MSM theme **(item for next budget cycle?)**

- 1. Document structure and/or future improvement suggestions
- 2. Financial management
- 3. Functional activities plans
- 4. Funding assumptions and projections
- 5. ICANN mtgs, constituent travel, community engagement support
- 6. Operating initiative resources
- 7. Operating initiatives plans
- 8. Personnel and headcount
- 9. Progress measurement and reporting

1.Document Structure and / or future improvement suggestions

A total of 17 comments. Several comments pertained to recommendations that would improve ease of readability and clarity for the community

- ALAC comment on accessibility issues
- Response: If updates or enhancements are needed to ensure documents meet accessibility guidelines, ICANN org will implement them starting in the FY23 planning cycle.
- *Improvement or not should be noted in next cycle*

2. Financial Management – 21 comments in total

- At Large question about whether funds from cancelled events went to the reserve fund or elsewhere
- Response was an explanation of how the reserve fund works – no clear clarification of how surplus funds are managed
- At Large question about potential head count increase
- Response focussed on how head count is managed and that it is fairly stable
- At Large question re: co-vid tests at meetings and projected costs of f2f mtgs. post-co-vid
- Response – contingency funds could be used if necessary and relying on international best practices for risk assessment

2. Financial Management – cont'd

- At Large question re “cost savings” and what that line contains
- Response –relates to potential efficiencies found during the budget period
- At large question re: financial strategy re: reserve fund
- Response – explanation re: operation of reserve fund
- At Large request for assurance that postponed EURALO mtg will be funded , that additional hotel and per diem for training at EURALO General Assembly be funded, for funding of other planned general assemblies
- All approved RALO mtgs will be supported from contingency funds if necessary

3. Functional Activities Plans - 20 comments about 12/34 activities

At large question re: staff resources to support At Large review implementation:

The ICANN org Executive Team is engaging with the Chairs of the ICANN SOs and ACs to facilitate the community's planning of its work from year to year (including prioritization of work). This engagement helps to ensure that ICANN org provides resources to those projects and activities the community and various groups identify as priority topics. Thus, ICANN org will be able to more fully assess and adjust its staffing levels going forward to align with the community's identified needs for priority work (con't next slide)

3. Functional Activities Plans - 20 comments about 12/34 activities (con'd)

At large question re: staff resources to support At Large review implementation: (con't)

Regarding how ICANN org evaluates the need for and funding of policy support, ICANN org will review how it presents the budget documentation to the community in future budget cycles. With respect to estimating policy support levels needed to facilitate the community's policy work, ICANN org relies on a combination of factors, such as each community group's projected work plans, the status of ongoing work, the workload of existing staff, and the org's overall staffing needs and available resources. *It is important that the community clearly prioritize and plan its work over the short and longer term to enable a more accurate estimate of resourcing and support needed.*

4. Funding Assumption and Projections – 8 comments

At large question re: market assumptions

- Response: The FY22 Budget assumes registrar counts will grow..... the FY22 Budget assumes that the domain market will expand steadily in line with prior years and thus increase the number of active contracted parties.....
- ICANN org conservatively estimated the registrar counts. With an FY21 starting point of about 2,450, ICANN org assumes this number will drop to about 2,328 at the end of FY21. In FY22, the domain market's slight rebound is assumed, and the numbers of registrars will steadily increase in line with historical averages such that FY22 will end with about 2,356 registrars.

5. ICANN Mtgs, Constituent Travel, and Community Engagement Support

A total of 20 comments were received on this theme. These comments varied in scope; some indicated a need for more explanation of resources allocated to outreach.

- No specific questions from At Large

6. Operating Initiative Resources – 28 comments

- At Large concerns were seeking clarification re: funding estimates.
- Response excerpt: The resources indicated for the operating initiatives display low, mid-point, and high estimates. The estimates provide information on possible scenarios rather than definitive expectations. As planning work advances on each initiative, the nature of activities and resources required to support them will become clearer. *ICANN org will continue to refine these estimates as it determines relevant costs and efforts.*

7. Operating initiatives Plans

A total of 83 comments were received covering almost all of the 15 operating initiatives, seeking additional clarification or information on the initiative scope or progress planned.

• Nothing specific from At Large listed here despite the fact that operating initiatives include 2 major MSM topics – our MSM topics are under #9 – Measurement and Reporting

8. Personnel and Headcount

- A total of eight comments were received regarding headcount and/or staffing. These comments primarily suggested a need for further explanation of and rationale for headcount and personnel expenses.

- *For At Large question on staffing issues see Financial management (#2) and Functional Activities (#3) re: staff resources to support At Large review implementation*

9. Progress Measurement and Reporting – 13 comments received

- ICANN org appreciates the (ALAC) suggestion for a regular progress report to stakeholders including a report on community contributions to MSM issues (e.g. EURALO roundtables).
- ICANN org acknowledges and appreciates that the recommended reporting could be similar to the five-year rolling community-led roadmap included in the Appendix A of the Draft Operating and Financial Plans.

9. Progress Measurement and Reporting – cont'd

- ICANN org also appreciates ALAC's suggestion particularly related to progress measurement and reporting of the evolution of the multistakeholder model
- DID NOT DIRECTLY RESPOND TO OUR POINT ABOUT QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENT BUT INDICATED THAT *NEW PERFORMANCE INDICATORS* ARE BEING DESIGNED – we should keep our fingers on that pulse!

9. Progress Measurement and Reporting – cont'd 2/3

- ICANN organization and the ICANN Board understand the nature of the effort, as well as the complexities involved in implementing the work areas identified for evolving the ICANN's multistakeholder model, **and will continue to work with the community to carry out the activities needed to achieve the intended objectives.**
- ICANN org will continue to evaluate if its milestones reasonably measure progress toward achievement of the plans in the future cycle.

9. Progress Measurement and Reporting – cont'd (3/3)

- A targeted outcome of the Planning at ICANN Operating Initiative is the design and implementation of a progress and achievements reporting process, which will include consultations with the community, progress reporting, and measurement of achievements.
- The “How Progress is Tracked” sections of the plan will continue to be refined and more metrics-driven in future documents.