ICANN Fiscal Year 2023 Additional Budget Request Process

Assessment Report and Proposed Recommendations
for ICANN Board Consideration

May 2022

Table of Contents

Introduction

The Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) Additional Budget Request (ABR) process began in October 2021. ICANN org received 20 requests from 8 ICANN community groups by the January 2022 deadline.

Based on the anticipated timeline for ICANN Board consideration of the draft FY23 Operating Plan and Budget, ICANN organization (ICANN org) conducted an initial assessment of all requests in March 2022. An evaluation panel comprising the executives of the Finance and Planning, Global Stakeholder Engagement, and Policy Development Support functions reviewed the initial assessment also in March 2022.

ICANN org prepared this document for the consideration of the ICANN Board Finance Committee (BFC) and the ICANN Board. This document presents the results of the assessment process, including proposed recommendations for the consideration of the BFC and ICANN Board.

Summary of the Assessment Process

Within the assumptions of the draft FY23 Operating Plan and Budget, and consistent with the ABR principles, the assessment process focused on recommending support for requests that will facilitate effective and sustainable community work. This entails:
- Allocating available resources to requests that are directly and demonstrably related to current ICANN community policy development, advisory, and technical work.
- Addressing capacity development objectives by encouraging collaboration with the Global Stakeholder Engagement and Public Responsibility Support functions, including creation of evergreen materials that can be used for online training.
- Considering both financial and resource commitments of ICANN org to support individual and collective requests in an equitable and transparent manner.

To ensure accountability and transparency, several requests have reporting requirements. ICANN org will provide a report template in FY23. This requirement follows the announcement in FY20 that the timely submission of required reports will be an explicit consideration in determining whether future requests will be recommended for support. For example, one FY23 proposed recommendation is conditioned on the submission of an FY22 report. In addition, specific conditions and other requirements have been included in certain proposed recommendations.

Further clarity about the proposed use of an ABR and required reports are helpful tools for the ICANN community and iCANN org to assess the value of certain activities. Supported requests must adhere to ICANN org procurement policies. Transparency and accountability requirements

are also useful in determining whether a pilot effort should continue for more refinement or become part of the annual operating plan and budget to the extent that resources are available from year to year.

Statistics

ICANN org observes the following statistics about the FY23 ABR process.

Number of ICANN community groups submitting requests	8
Number of total requests	20
Number of requests not recommended for support	15
Number of requests recommended for support	5
Estimated costs of requests recommended for support	$100,000
Estimated costs of additional pilot projects	$200,000
Total allocation for FY23 ABR process	**$300,000**

Ongoing Support

The ABR process represents only part of the resourcing available annually for the ICANN community. It should be viewed in the broader context of overall support for the ICANN community, including professional support, intersessional meetings, and engagement activities that are captured elsewhere in the annual operating plan and budget.

The ABR process helps the ICANN Board and ICANN org better understand and develop resources for present and future ICANN community needs. Now in its eleventh year, the ABR process has helped the ICANN Board and ICANN org address evolving ICANN community needs through targeted allocations.

The ABR principles state that requests should reflect potential ICANN community activities that are not already included in the annual operating plan and budget. The number of requests has fluctuated over the years, which may reflect the incorporation of previously supported requests into the annual operating plan and budget after successful pilot phases. The ICANN community and org have also improved joint planning, prioritization, and implementation efforts.

ICANN org appreciates the effort and time that ICANN community groups committed to the FY23 ABR process. Though specific requests may not receive support this year, ICANN org recognizes the specific needs in these requests. **ICANN org currently supports significant**

elements of all 15 requests not recommended for support through ongoing activities, programs, and resources such as:
- [Community Regional Outreach Program (CROP)](#)
- [ICANN Fellowship Program](#)
- [ICANN Learn](#)
- [Information Transparency Initiative (ITI)](#)

Moreover, ICANN org functions such as Engineering and Information Technology, Global Communications, Global Stakeholder Engagement, and Policy Development Support allocate significant resources to address ICANN community needs. Through cooperation with the ICANN community, ICANN org continues to support ICANN community objectives in areas such as accessibility; engagement; capacity development; language services, including interpretation and transcription; and outreach, including travel support and website strategies.

ICANN org encourages ICANN community groups to regularly review their current support with their appropriate ICANN org support teams. Requests for future ABR processes should be developed to address any gaps or to enhance existing support.

Proposed Recommendations

The Proposed Recommendations section of this document has two subsections: [Requests Recommended for Support](#) and [Requests Not Recommended for Support](#). For Requests Recommended for Support, there is an estimated support amount (in US Dollars) and the names of the ICANN org members who will lead the coordination of implementation work. There is a fully resolved response for each request within the parameters of the request as outlined in the ABR principles.

Requests Recommended for Support

ICANN org recommends the following requests receive ABR support in the FY23 Operating Plan and Budget.

1. ## Request for Travel Support for Eight RrSG Participants and Eight RySG Participants to Attend Any Global Domains Summits Held During FY23

Request number	[FY23-06](#)
Requesting ICANN community group	Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG)
Estimated support	$56,000
ICANN org leads	Russ Weinstein and Joseph De Jesus

This is a recommendation for travel support to the Global Domains Summit for eight RySG participants with an estimated support of $28,000. At its discretion, ICANN org recommends to the ICANN Board that a request from one ICANN community group be granted broadly and consistently to other applicable ICANN community groups. Therefore, this recommendation also includes travel support for eight Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) participants with an estimated support of $28,000. The total estimated support is $56,000. Travel support must adhere to the ICANN Community Travel Support Guidelines.

ICANN org encourages the RrSG and RySG to work with the ICANN Travel Support team and to consider maximizing travel support as allowed. This recommendation is conditioned on both the RrSG and RySG providing their criteria for selecting supported travelers to ICANN org. In addition and in line with the intention to conduct a review of the impact of travel support, the RrSG and RySG must submit a report to abr-reports@icann.org within 30 days of the conclusion of the Global Domains Summit that addresses each itemized metric in the request and outlines how the travel support facilitated the desired outcomes. Furthermore, ICANN org recommends this level of communications support be included in the annual operating plan and budget going forward.

It is important to note that as of April 2022, global travel conditions continue to evolve due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ICANN org will continue to monitor these developments and provide updates to the ICANN community as appropropriate.

2. Online Engagement Training, Enhance Web Presence, and Promotional Materials

Request number	FY23-09
Requesting ICANN community group	Noncommercial Users Constituency (NCUC)

This is a recommendation of support only for "promotional materials". Please refer to "ICANN Community Communications Support" for more information, which consolidates similar requests into one recommendation.

Support does not apply to "online engagement training" and "enhance web presence". ICANN org does not manage the NCUC website, and as such, is not in a position to assess the need for enhancements. The ICANN org Policy Development Support and Engineering and Information Technology functions have developed a strategy to consistently manage technical projects for ICANN community needs, including website improvements. ICANN org will engage with NCUC and consider its needs as prioritized in the strategy for ICANN community websites.

3. Diversity in ICANN Leadership Bodies, Part 2

Request number	FY23-13
Requesting ICANN community group	European Regional At-Large Organization (EURALO)
Estimated support	$14,000
ICANN org leads	Heidi Ullrich and Ergys Ramaj

This is a recommendation for support on the condition that both the findings from the FY22 study are published and the related virtual workshop takes place by 30 June 2022. If these conditions are not met, then the estimated support will not be allocated for FY23. ICANN org agrees with EURALO that enhancing diversity in ICANN community leadership bodies would benefit from additional data. ICANN org encourages EURALO to work with the Policy Development Support function and Public Responsibility Support team to evaluate and analyze the data collected in the FY22 study about diversity in the context of the Work Stream 2 recommendations of the Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability. The approved request must incorporate a virtual workshop series open to the broader ICANN community. Findings from the study must be published. EURALO is required to submit an initial report by 31 December 2022 and a final report by 30 June 2023 to abr-reports@icann.org.

4. (ISPCP) Outreach Materials

Request number	FY23-16
Requesting ICANN community group	Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency (ISPCP)

This is a recommendation for support. Please refer to "ICANN Community Communications Support" for more information, which consolidates similar requests into one recommendation.

5. (BC) Outreach Materials

Request number	FY23-20
Requesting ICANN community group	Business Constituency (BC)

This is a recommendation for support. Please refer to "ICANN Community Communications Support" for more information, which consolidates similar requests into one recommendation.

ICANN Community Communications Support

Estimated support	$30,000
ICANN org leads	Natalie Schoer and Chantelle Doerksen

At its discretion, ICANN org recommends to the ICANN Board that a request from one ICANN community group be granted broadly and consistently to other applicable ICANN community groups. For the last four fiscal years, ICANN org has consolidated all requests for communications, design, and publication support into a single recommendation, which has worked well. This approach applies to requests FY23-09 (partial), FY23-16, and FY23-20. Combining requests allows ICANN org to facilitate flexible use within the estimated support for all interested Supporting Organizations, Advisory Committees, Stakeholder Groups, Constituencies, and Regional At-Large Organizations. The Policy Development Support and Global Communications functions manage this allocation. Requests are limited to $1,500 per ICANN community group per ICANN Public Meeting. Requests must adhere to the ICANN Communications and Style Guidelines. Furthermore, ICANN org recommends this level of communications support be included in the annual operating plan and budget going forward.

Requests Not Recommended for Support

ICANN org recommends the following requests do not receive ABR support in the FY23 Operating Plan and Budget.

1. NARALO Restream Broadcasting Service

Request number	FY23-01
Requesting ICANN community group	North American Regional At-Large Organization (NARALO)

This is a recommendation for no support. Although other streaming services exist, ICANN org streams select content only through YouTube. ICANN org does not have the resourcing to support streaming on YouTube or any other streaming service beyond its current scope of designated events. The Global Communications function and Meetings Technical Services team are currently assessing demand for streaming services to benefit the entire ICANN community rather than individual ICANN community groups.

2. NARALO Web Presence Overhaul

Request number	FY23-02
Requesting ICANN community group	North American At-Large Organization

	(NARALO)

This is a recommendation for no support. ICANN org does not manage the NARALO website, and as such, is not in a position to assess the need for enhancements. The ICANN org Policy Development Support and Engineering and Information Technology functions have developed a strategy to consistently manage technical projects for ICANN community needs, including website improvements. ICANN org will engage with NARALO and consider its needs as prioritized in the strategy for ICANN community websites.

3. LAC Digital

Request number	FY23-03
Requesting ICANN community group	Latin American and Caribbean Regional At-Large Organization (LACRALO)

This is a recommendation for no support. Although "challenges and risks" in Internet governance and the "digital gap" are important topics, the request does not explain how it directly and demonstrably relates to current ICANN community policy development, advisory, or technical work. The request also did not include any metrics. ICANN org encourages LACRALO to work with the Policy Development Support function and Latin American and Caribbean Stakeholder Engagement team on how to pursue its outreach and engagement objectives.

4. Universal Acceptance

Request number	FY23-04
Requesting ICANN community group	Latin American and Caribbean Regional At-Large Organization (LACRALO)

This is a recommendation for no support. ICANN org already promotes Universal Acceptance and encourages readiness among operational and technical stakeholders. ICANN org previously partnered with LACRALO to organize a successful Universal Acceptance training program, and ICANN Learn already features an introduction to Universal Acceptance course. ICANN org encourages LACRALO to continue working within existing resourcing and with the Policy Development Support function, the Latin American and Caribbean Stakeholder Engagement team, and the Internationalized Domain Names and Universal Acceptance team to sustain its Universal Acceptance trainings.

5. Internet Analysis Framework

Request number	[FY23-05](#)
Requesting ICANN community group	Latin American and Caribbean Regional At-Large Organization (LACRALO)

This is a recommendation for no support. ICANN Learn courses about the Domain Name System (DNS), Internet governance, and Internet history already exist. The request also did not include any metrics. ICANN org encourages LACRALO to review the ICANN Learn course catalog to assess whether existing courses meet its capacity development objectives in coordination with the Policy Development Support function and Public Responsibility Support team.

6. ICANN Public Meeting Travel Support

Request number	[FY23-07](#)
Requesting ICANN community group	Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG)

This is a recommendation for no support. This is a request for additional travel support to ICANN Public Meetings, which is against the ABR principles. ICANN org encourages the RySG to provide a Public Comment submission during the planning process for the annual operating plan and budget.

7. Travel Support for ISPs in Developing Countries to ICANN Public Meetings

Request number	[FY23-08](#)
Requesting ICANN community group	Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency (ISPCP)

This is a recommendation for no support, in line with the approach from FY20 and FY21. Although ICANN org recommended support for a similar request from the ISPCP in FY19, the increased involvement of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees in defining qualifying criteria, selection, and mentoring objectives of the revised ICANN Fellowship Program (in effect since June 2019) and the continued availability of CROP, provide adequate opportunities for ICANN community groups to promote leadership development and outreach. ICANN org encourages the ISPCP to work with the Policy Development Support function, the Global Stakeholder Engagement function, and the Public Responsibility Support team to determine how to support its cultivation of members and leaders from developing countries.

8. Inclusion and Accessibility Consultant

Request number	FY23-10
Requesting ICANN community group	At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

This is a recommendation for no support. ITI aims to improve accessibility of ICANN content according to the World Wide Web Consortium Accessibility Standards through a disciplined content strategy. This work involves training ICANN org teams to leverage new Content and Document Management Systems.

9. Improve the ALAC - At-Large Information

Request number	FY23-11
Requesting ICANN community group	At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

This is a recommendation for no support. The ICANN org Policy Development Support and Engineering and Information Technology functions have developed a strategy to consistently manage technical projects for ICANN community needs, including improving the ICANN Community Wiki. ICANN org will engage with the ALAC and consider its needs in the context of the strategy for ICANN community collaboration tools.

10. Pilot Interpretation Zoom

Request number	FY23-12
Requesting ICANN community group	At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

This is a recommendation for no support. Remote simultaneous interpretation through Zoom is cost prohibitive and resource-heavy. The requirements include hardware, a remote simultaneous interpretation platform, in-house and contracted technical support, and qualified and skilled interpreters in target languages. ICANN org only provides this service for ICANN Public Meetings and other priority events. ICANN org encourages the ALAC to continue utilizing existing interpretation resources available through the Language Services team.

11. Real-Time Transcription of Zoom Meetings in Spanish and French

Request number	FY23-14
Requesting ICANN community group	At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

This is a recommendation for no support. ICANN org recommended support for a similar request in FY22, but technical limitations remain. ICANN org notes that current market offerings do not meet its requirements and standards for real-time transcription of Zoom sessions in French and Spanish. Furthermore, the current workaround used for ICANN Public Meetings is cost prohibitive and resource-heavy, requiring additional hardware and platforms.

12.   LACRALO General Assembly

Request number	FY23-15
Requesting ICANN community group	Latin American and Caribbean Regional At-Large Organization (LACRALO)

This is a recommendation for no support. RALO General Assemblies are already incorporated into the annual operating plan and budget. ICANN org encourages LACRALO to work with the Policy Development Support function to plan its next General Assembly.

13.   Constituency Outreach Support

Request number	FY23-17
Requesting ICANN community group	Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency (ISPCP)

This is a recommendation for no support. ICANN org notes that the existing CROP provides travel support for the ICANN community. ICANN org encourages the ISPCP to work with the Policy Development Support and Global Stakeholder Engagement functions on how to pursue its outreach and engagement objectives.

14.   Development of BC-Specific Training, Knowledge Base, and Onboarding Materials on ICANN Learn

Request number	FY23-18
Requesting ICANN community group	Business Constituency (BC)

This is a recommendation for no support. ICANN org notes that the BC submitted a similar request for FY22, which received support. That ICANN Learn course is still in development and is expected to be completed by the end of FY22. ICANN org encourages the BC to assess its onboarding needs after measurable experience with the "Getting to Know the Business Constituency" ICANN Learn course. ICANN Learn already includes courses about DNS fundamentals and an introduction to Universal

Acceptance. Furthermore, the ICANN Learn team continuously develops new content. Developing ICANN Learn courses about data management and DNS abuse now would only capture a snapshot of ongoing ICANN community work and discussions.

15.   BC Leadership Development Support and Onboarding Program

Request number	FY23-19
Requesting ICANN community group	Business Constituency (BC)

This is a recommendation for no support, in line with the approach from FY20 and FY21. Although ICANN org recommended support for a similar request from the BC in FY19, the increased involvement of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees in defining qualifying criteria, selection, and mentoring objectives of the revised ICANN Fellowship Program (in effect since June 2019) and the continued availability of CROP, provide adequate opportunities for ICANN community groups to promote leadership development and outreach. ICANN org encourages the BC to work with the Policy Development Support function, the Global Stakeholder Engagement function, and the Public Responsibility Support team to determine how to support its cultivation of members and leaders from developing countries.

Additional Pilot Projects

ICANN org has previously and proactively proposed pilot projects based on its review of available data regarding emerging needs in the ICANN community or trends in the ABR process. The aim of these pilot projects has been to address specific needs through the provision of capacity development or enhanced support services. Examples of these pilot projects include the Community Regional Outreach Pilot Program and the Document Development and Drafting Pilot Program. These pilot projects allow ICANN org to work with the ICANN community to test different approaches as a proof of concept for future projects within the ABR envelope where the results of the pilot project demonstrate obvious benefit to the broader ICANN community. For FY23, ICANN org has developed two pilot projects:

1. Targeted Interpretation for ccNSO Sessions During ICANN75, 76, and 77

Estimated support	$150,000
ICANN org leads	Kimberly Carlson and Christina Rodriguez

The ccNSO consists of over 170 country code top-level domain (ccTLD) managers from around the world. According to the ccNSO secretariat, 51 percent of ccNSO members consider Arabic, French, or Spanish their official language, compared to 40 percent

indicating English as their official language. Providing interpretation in these three target languages will enhance the support for ccNSO sessions during ICANN Public Meetings. This pilot project will benefit the ccTLD community by promoting technical outreach, deepening operational exchanges, and advancing policy development related to ccTLDs, including Internationalized Domain Names. In addition, this pilot project will allow ICANN org to assess the costs and feasibility of providing additional interpretation services to the ICANN community based on emerging needs over time. The estimated support covers simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, French, and Spanish for ICANN75, 76, and 77. This pilot project will be jointly managed by the Policy Development Support function and the Language Services team. To facilitate ICANN org review of the results of this pilot project, the ccNSO is required to submit a report by 30 June 2023 to abr-reports@icann.org.

2. Policy Primers

Estimated support	$50,000
ICANN org leads	Chantelle Doerksen

To foster more informed and meaningful engagement in current policy work, the Policy Development Support function will develop four policy primers during FY23. The policy primers will supplement capacity development efforts already underway. Experienced ICANN community members and leaders understand the importance of having accessible, comprehensive information to participate in policy development. This working knowledge is especially helpful for beginners and new ICANN community members and may also serve as an evergreen resource to supplement existing subject matter expertise across ICANN. The Policy Development Support function and Public Responsibility Support team will also plan to integrate the policy primers into existing and planned programs intended to enhance ICANN community training and knowledge about priority topics at ICANN. Moreover, the policy primers can have multiple uses, including complementing the ICANN Learn course catalog and serving as the foundation for future ICANN Learn courses. The estimated support covers research, writing, design, and translation into the five United Nations languages. The policy primers must be published on the ICANN website and promoted broadly.