FY23 COMMUNITY REQUEST FORM

The deadline for   consideration as part of the Fiscal Year 2023 ABR process is Monday, 24 January 2022.

 Please send completed request forms to planning@icann.org. Every question is required. Incomplete requests will not be   considered.

PRIORITY #1

REQUEST INFORMATION

Title of Proposed Activity	
Registries Stakeholder Group request for travel support for eight (8) participants to attend any GDS Industry Summits held during Fiscal Year 2023 (schedule/location TBD)	
Community Requestor Name	**Chair**
gTLD Registries Stakeholder Group	Samantha Demetriou
ICANN Staff Community Liaison	
Russ Weinstein VP GDD Accounts & Services Global Domains and Strategy	

REQUEST DESCRIPTION

1. Activity: **Please describe your proposed activity in detail**

Since the 2012 round of New gTLDs, the Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) has expanded to a steady state membership and currently has 79 Registry Operators with 335 participants and representing over 75% of the new gTLDs delegated and/or under contract with ICANN. The current demographics of our membership follows (as of January 2021):

Total Companies	Total Region	*Total R/O	Total Vote	Total Members	**Total Type
79	28 NA	77 R	65 Y	335	78 P
	34 EUR	1 O	14 N		75 A
	12 AP	2 A			141 O
	2 LAC				
	1 AF				

*R=Registry
*O=Observer

*A=Association
** P = Principal delegate
**A = Alternate delegate
**O = Other delegate

With the continued growth of the RySG, and the Contracted Party House (CPH) as a whole, coupled with the myriad of concurrent and critical activities currently in play within the ICANN community and, specifically, within the GNSO, the value-add from Summits held in 2015 through 2019 has continued to be evident. Regrettably the 2020 Summit, scheduled for May 2020 was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and due to the ongoing crisis, there was no reasonable opportunity to schedule or organize a GDD in 2021. Given the prolonged lack of the GDS type meeting (either F2F or virtual), it is certainly envisaged that the next possible GDS Summits (2022 if possible, and 2023 as envisaged in this request) shall be of critical importance to the CPH and ICANN, in supporting and providing a productive and constructive forum for focused hands-on, in-person working sessions to address the critical issues currently facing our industry.

Given the extraordinary and unprecedented circumstances of the past 2 years, and the ever increasing need to address a number of matters of vital importance within the community, the RYSG wishes to emphasize how important the next in-person GDS Summits will likely be. We wish to encourage, as best as possible, the broadest and most inclusive participation from all our members in these meetings. Noting this valuable event has not taken place for 2 years at time of submission, with potential for 3 years should a meeting deemed not possible during the calendar year of 2022, we wish to be mindful of the ever increasing need to support in person participation for the GDS, with specific emphasis on attendance and participation from across the full spectrum of our diverse membership. Post Covid (or perhaps with all precautions and observance of accepted standards of event and risk management in a controlled, yet ongoing, COVID situation), it is accepted that travelers shall likely face enhanced restrictions and potential additional costs for such travel. These increased costs may tend to disincentivize diverse attendance. The availability of additional travel slots will be of objective aid and especially benefit those members who truly would like to attend, if not for the potential additional costs incurred.

As such the RySG would like to request that ICANN supports eight (8) travel slots for RySG participation for CPH GDS Industry Summits in FY23. The RySG Executive Committee will closely monitor any travel requests submitted by requiring the requestors to demonstrate their need, provide a statement of interest, indicate how they can benefit by participation and commit to actively participate in such Summits as well as taking an active role in any follow-on activities from the Summits.

The travel support currently provided to the RySG for members to participate in the three (3) ICANN meetings each year has resulted in a growth in new member participation and mentoring, a high level of participation in working groups and other critical efforts within the RySG and broader CPH. There is every expectation this same outcome will be realized by providing those members, who are otherwise unable to attend the FY2023 GDS Industry Summits, with travel support funding. Such funding will afford them an opportunity to engage in the focused and outcome-driven sessions, to enhance their knowledge base of topics most directly focused on the RySG (and CPH), and ultimately provide further volunteer participation in on-going and ever-expanding critical activities within the RySG, GNSO and broader ICANN community.

In addition, this will allow us to develop and mentor leadership within the RySG, enable small registries or those with new business models to participate, and provide the opportunity to reach out to those underserved geographic regions within the gTLD registries community and properly support their participation.

In summary, the RySG respectfully submits a request for unrestricted support of eight (8) travel slots to participate in the GDS Industry Summits in FY23.

2. Type of Activity: e.g., Outreach - Education/training - Travel support - Research/Study - Meetings - Other

Full travel support (airfare, hotel and per diem) for unrestricted travel for eight (8) slots as outlined above to attend any GDS Industry Summits in FY23.

3. Proposed Timeline/Schedule: e.g., one time activity, recurring activity

This would be a recurring activity.

REQUEST OBJECTIVES

1. Strategic Alignment. Which area of ICANN's Strategic Plan does this request support?

Strategic Objective: Improve the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model of governance.

Strategic Goal: Strengthen ICANN's bottom-up multistakeholder decision-making process and ensure that work gets done and policies are developed in an effective and timely manner.

Strategic Goal: Support and grow active, informed, and effective stakeholder participation.

Strategic Goal: Improve the shared responsibility for upholding the security and stability of the DNS by strengthening DNS coordination in partnership with relevant stakeholders.

Strategic Objective: Address geopolitical issues impacting ICANN's mission to ensure a single, globally interoperable Internet.

Strategic Goal: Continue to build alliances in the Internet ecosystem and beyond to raise awareness of and engage with global stakeholders about ICANN's mission and policymaking.

2. Demographics. What audience(s), in which geographies, does your request target?

Based on the individuals who may benefit from this opportunity, this request could potentially benefit any one of the five principal geographic regions. In addition to requirements that any individuals granted travel support funding be active in RySG activities and in topics/issues/working groups for these Summits, the RySG will continue to adhere to self-imposed guidelines for individuals requesting support to travel to the Summits.

3. Deliverables. What are the desired outcomes of your proposed activity?

1. Active participation at the GDS Industry Summits by individuals who otherwise could not attend due to funding constraints.
2. More geographic diversity in RySG participation including from underserved regions.
3. More diversity in terms of types of businesses participating in the Summits (i.e., small registry, geographic TLDs, community TLDs, etc.).
4. Expanding the resource pool for the RySG in GNSO policy development efforts including preparing potential new leaders.

4. Metrics. What measurements will you use to determine whether your activity achieves its desired outcomes?

1. Increase in the number of participants.
2. Improved geographic diversity of RySG participants.

3. Addition of participants who have previously not been able to attend GDS Industry Summits in person.
4. To ensure that the RySG requirements for receiving travel support are met and to measure the metrics above, the RySG Executive Committee will conduct a follow-on assessment/review of those funded travelers.

RESOURCE PLANNING – INCREMENTAL TO ACCOMMODATE THIS REQUEST

Staff Support Needed (not including subject matter expertise):

Description	Timeline	Assumptions	Costs basis or parameters	Additional Comments
n/a				

Subject Matter Expert Support:

Technology Support: (telephone, Adobe Connect, web streaming, etc.)

Language Services Support:

Other:

Travel Support:

As outlined above, request for funding (airfare, hotel and per diem) for eight (8) participants to be used in accordance with the RySG Supported Traveler Guidelines.

Potential/planned Sponsorship Contribution:

None known at this time. However, again emphasis is made on the fact that it is the RySG's practice to invite participants who request travel support if they could not otherwise attend/participate.