ICANN Specific Reviews – Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT3)
Recommendation 1.1 - Implementation Documentation
Published on 27 September 2022

ATRT3 Final Report https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/atrt3-report-executive-summary-29may20-en.pdf

Board resolution on ATRT3 Final Report https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2020-11-30-en#1.a

- Recommendation submitted: May 2020
- Recommendation approved: November 2020
- Implementation completed: August 2021

See https://community.icann.org/display/atrt/Implementation for more information on ATRT3 implementation.

ATRT3 Recommendation 1.1

To maximize the input from each Public Comment proceeding, ICANN org shall update the requirements per the following:
- Clearly identify who the intended audience is.
- Provide a clear list of precise key questions in plain language that the public consultation is seeking answers to from its intended audience.
- Where appropriate and feasible, include translations of the summary, key questions, and responses.
- Include results of these questions in the staff report.

Board Action on ATRT3 Recommendation 1.1

Approve subject to prioritization - The Board approves Recommendations1.1 and 1.2, subject to the timing of the Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) launch. The Board notes that substantial parts of the recommendation are either already being implemented or will be addressed when the new Public Comment feature launches under ITI. The Board notes that there may be a need to track implementation of Recommendations 1.1 and 1.2 separately due to the distinct work efforts and implementation steps required.

Final Implementation Report

To satisfy the requirement noted in the recommendation, org's ITI team launched an improved Public Comment feature. Requirements under recommendation and respective improvements are as follows:
- The new Public Comment webpages include a category for each proceeding. The ITI team made improvements that also include filtered search by category or date range, and improved keyword(s) search for proceedings, submissions, and files.
- New guided form submission feature helps the audience to see questions in a plain language. Additionally, the audience is able to see a preview of all questions in a Word document (example).

- Though no proceeding has been translated since the launch of the new feature in September 2021, the Public Comment and Language Services teams have workflows in place to translate content for Public Comment as requested by the ICANN community, ICANN Board, or ICANN org.
- ICANN org analyzes submissions and responds to them comprehensively in the summary report. An example can be found here.

In addition to satisfying requirements noted above, ICANN org created Public Comment Step-by-Step Submission Guidelines and a recorded training webinar about the improved Public Comment submission process as shared in this blog post.

Rationale

As mentioned in the Board Scorecard for ATRT3: "The Board approves Recommendations 1.1 and 1.2, subject to the timing of the Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) launch. The Board notes that substantial parts of the recommendation are either already being implemented or will be addressed when the new Public Comment feature launches under ITI."

Timeline

Expected implementation date: n/a
Final implementation date: 31 August 2021

Milestones

February 2020: Launch of the new Public Comment feature on ITI feedback site and collection of the feedback
April 2020: Soft launch of the ICANN website including new Public Comment feature for further feedback
November 2020: Board approval of the ATRT3 recommendation 1.1
August 2021: Launch of the new Public Comment feature