
ICANN Specific Reviews – Third Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT3)

Recommendation 1.2 - Implementation Documentation

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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 1.2

With regards to other types of public input ICANN org shall:

- Develop and publish guidelines to assist in determining when a Public Comment process is required vs. alternate mechanisms for gathering input.
- Develop and publish guidelines for how alternative mechanisms for gathering input should operate, including producing final reports.
- Develop a system similar to and integrated with the Public Comment tracking system for all uses alternate mechanisms to gather input.
- Publish the complete “Public Comment Guidelines for the ICANN Organization.”
- Resolve the issue of blog posts collecting feedback information when the “Public Comment Guidelines for the ICANN Organization” state that they “will not be used as mechanisms for collecting feedback.”

Board Action on ATRT3 Recommendation 1.2

Approve subject to prioritization - 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. 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, the org’s Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) team launched an [improved Public Comment](#) feature that includes an [“Other Public Consultations” webpage](#). Requirements under recommendation and respective improvements are as follows:

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- ICANN Org developed guidelines for when to have public comments and other consultations; these were highlighted in [David Olive's blog post](#), that was posted on icann.org website on 9 October 2019, as follows:
 - Public Comment is the default mechanism when seeking feedback from the ICANN community or general public.
 - There may be circumstances where an alternative to Public Comment may be more appropriate. Alternative mechanisms include consultations or surveys for more targeted audiences and must be approved by ICANN org executive team members.
 - Announcements, blog posts, social media campaigns, regional newsletters, and mailing lists will not be used as mechanisms for collecting feedback.
 - The same guidelines mentioned above includes a process regarding how to use an alternative mechanism, types and examples of alternative mechanisms, and how the feedback/final report of an alternative mechanism can be published, accessed, and archived.
 - A page under Public Comment was created and named [Other Public Consultations](#), the page description says: "At the request of the ICANN community, this page is intended to provide a central location for other surveys or public consultations that fall outside the Public Comment process."
 - ICANN Org developed "Public Comment Guidelines for ICANN Organization" as mentioned in [David Olive's blog post](#), that was posted on icann.org website on 9 October 2019, as follows:
 - The ICANN organization recently adopted internal guidelines for Public Comment that clarify its purpose and define when it should be implemented. The internal guidelines codify current Public Comment practice for the benefit of ICANN org.

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

30 November 2020: Board approval of the ATRT3 recommendation 1.2.

31 August 2021: Launch of the new Public Comment feature including "Other Public Consultations".