

The At-Large Advisory Committee wishes to express its disappointment with the Board's decision to meet in a closed session on Saturday 23 June to adopt the draft .com renewal agreement: <http://www.icann.org/en/groups/board/documents/resolutions-23jun12-en.htm#2>.

ICANN staff had placed this topic on the Thursday 28 June public forum agenda some time ago, and the .com renewal item remains on the public forum topic list. Although we were aware that the .com agreement was on the Board's agenda, we were not aware of the intent to approve the agreement at its closed session.

This comment is not with regard to the merits of the Board's action nor of the content of the .com agreement. The process followed by the Board is objectionable at a time when ICANN is subject to increased scrutiny. To give the impression that the Board is interested in additional community comment but then make a decision five days earlier is not appropriate. It is imperative that the Board hold itself to the highest standards of transparency and accountability that it is mandated to uphold.