

# ATRT2 Recommendation 7 Implementation

## Public Comment Improvements

30 September 2015

### Implementation 7 Timeline



November 2015  
Operationalized

### Recommendation 7 Implementation Description

ATRT2 Recommendation 7 identifies various mechanisms to improve public comment periods through process modifications and the use of new tools. The Board has specifically instructed staff to create and implement a process to enable those who comment during public comment periods to request changes to staff synthesis reports in cases where commenters believe the staff incorrectly summarized their comments.

The project improvements are now fully operationalized. Staff assessments will take place later this year to measure the effectiveness of the improvements and to determine what further steps can be taken to improve public comment and other community input mechanisms for the organization.

### Status of Deliverables

	Responsible	Due Date
Centralized public comment page live on icann.org	Staff	✓
Enhanced visual timeline for public comment live on icann.org	Staff	✓
Ability to "follow" public comments on icann.org	Staff	✓
Eliminate Reply Cycle/Expand Comment period	Staff	✓
Create Staff Summary Report Inquiry Process	Staff	✓
Snapshot of public comment data 6 months after implementation	Staff	✓ processing data
Publish Report for Community	Staff	November 2015



Complete  
Planned/In Process  
Behind schedule, expected to recover within original plan  
Behind schedule, original plan to be adjusted

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### Project Status

This project has both short term and long term components. ICANN staff mapped out specific tasks, milestones, deliverables and dependencies to implement all aspects of the ATRT2 Rec 7 recommendations. The Rec 7 recommendations have been fully implemented as the following short term improvements have been realized:

- Centralized public comment page live on icann.org (see <https://www.icann.org/public-comments - open-public>)
- Elimination of Reply comments mechanism and expansion of public comment period to 40-day default time frame (see announcement <https://www.icann.org/resources/newsletter/policy-update-2014-11-21-en>)
- Enhanced visual timeline for public comment live on icann.org (see e.g., <https://www.icann.org/public-comments/rpm-review-2015-02-02-en>)
- Ability to “follow” public comments on icann.org
- Stricter staff expectations and processes to produce summary reports in a timely manner (default two weeks)
- Creation of process and mechanism for community to confer, challenge, correct, complain about staff summary reports. (see <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/report-inquiry-2014-10-21-en>)
- Improvements Information shared with Community and Staff (see <https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pagelD=51417227>) and (see <https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pagelD=51418375>)

### Implementation Notes

Staff plans to assess the effectiveness of the implemented short term improvements after 6 months and publish the results of that assessment by approximately 30 November 2015. Based on that assessment and consideration of other factors, further long term improvements to (and evolution of) ICANN’s public comment/community input mechanisms will be considered. Implementation of any further evolution of the Public Comments infrastructure will be explored and vetted with the community before any additional changes are made.