



Public Comment Enhancements

Policy Development Support Team | 22 January 2015

Background and Overview of Initiatives

ATRT1 (2011-2012)

- Rec #15: Stratification & Prioritization
- Rec #16: Comment & Reply Cycles
- Rec #17 & 21: Fixed Duration Timelines & Upcoming Topics

ATRT2 (2014-2015)

- Rec #7.1: “Adjusted time allotments, forward planning regarding the number of consultations given anticipated growth in participation, and new tools that facilitate participation.”
- Rec #7.2: “Establish a process...whereby [participants]...can request changes to the synthesis reports in cases where they believe the Staff incorrectly summarized their comment(s).”

Future: SO/AC Engagement-Input & Feedback Mechanisms

- Segment solicited advice by respondent type (e.g., stakeholder organizations vs. unaffiliated parties)
- Host separate technology platforms for different use cases (e.g., static for organized structures; dynamic for individual contributors)
- Broaden the envelope of participation mechanisms so that each type of contributor finds an appropriate communication channel to ICANN

Latest Enhancements—effective 26 January 2015

1

Suspended Reply Cycle

2

Minimum 40-Day Comment Period

3

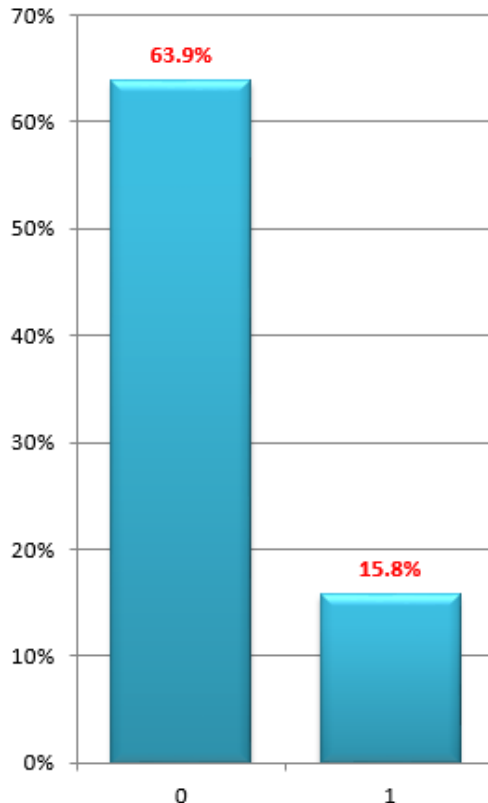
Timeliness of Staff Summary Reports

4

**Community Inquiry Protocol
for Staff Summary Reports**

1) Reply Cycles Did Not Fulfill Vision

Frequency of Replies



- After analysis, 75% of all Replies were actually original comments submitted after the deadline
- 64% of all solicitations had no legitimate Replies (see chart)
- Average number of Replies since launch in Jan 2012 has been **1.0**
- Decision: suspend reply cycle and analyze after six-month experience

2) Consistent Message: More Time



40-Day Comment Cycle

- 40 Days is new target minimum—longer is acceptable when conditions warrant (e.g., topic complexity)
- Shorter period needs prior approval of 2 Global Leaders
- ICANN contractual or Bylaws requirements (e.g., 21 Days) take precedence

3) Staff Summary Report Timeline

New Timeline feature effective 26 January 2015



3) Staff Summary Report Deadlines

GOALS: Timeliness and Accountability with Flexibility

- Target deadline has always been and remains 2 weeks from final Close Date
- If Staff needs more than 2 weeks, for a particular reason, an extension may be requested
- The expected date will be amended on the timeline

4) Community Inquiry Protocol

Guidelines

- Community inquiries are submitted via email to public-comment@icann.org within 30 days of the Staff Summary Report publication
- Staff is obliged to respond within 7 business days including its decision and rationale
- All inquiries and Staff responses will be published on ICANN.org Public Comment (new template) and will be archived for transparency purposes
- No formal appeal process; however, the ICANN Ombudsman may be utilized

Example

Recently Closed for Public Comment	Close Date	Report of Public Comments
Proposed Changes to GNSO Operating Procedures Follow	8 Oct 2014	Report
Introduction of Two-Character Domain Names for .JETZT, .GLOBAL, .NEUSTAR, .KIWI, .BERLIN Follow	3 Oct 2014	Report Inquiry Reissued Report
Enhancing ICANN Accountability Process Follow	27 Sep 2014	Report

Supplemental Process Improvements

1) Public Comment
Team Review:
All Solicitations
& Reports
(public-comment@icann.org)

2) New Staff
Guidelines &
Templates
(Community Wiki under
SOAC/E Space)

3) New Public
Comment Timeline
Graphic

4) Public Comment
Calendar
(...coming soon on ICANN.org)