

Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability Paris Communiqué

18 July 2015

Members and participants of the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) met in Paris, France, from 17-18 July 2015. The event served as an opportunity to further advance the discussion on key outstanding issues and to reach agreement on next steps towards finalizing its Work Stream 1 recommendations.

This gathering comes on the heels of ICANN53 in Buenos Aires, as well as a series of prior discussions and feedback in response to the public comment period of the group's draft report.

The meeting had strong community participation, with 76 group members and participants attending in person and an additional 30 joining remotely. Further, several members of the ICANN Board of Directors, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) representatives, external Advisors and local stakeholders were also present ([list of all participants](#)).

Key issues discussed and agreed-upon next steps are outlined below:

Community Empowerment Models

Following close examination and a series of dialogues and exchanges on the merits and drawbacks of the three (3) community empowerment models presented, the group agreed to advance the Community Mechanism as Sole Member Model (CMSM) as part of Work Stream 1, noting the consensus that emerged among the members of the CCWG-Accountability in support of this model.

Under this model, the SOs and ACs would collectively participate together as the sole member of Iann. This coordination of SO and ACs would be empowered to take certain special actions within ICANN. Additional details will become available over the next few weeks as the community continues to develop the framework for this model.

The 'Empowered SO/AC Designator' and 'Empowered SO/AC Membership' models were also discussed and considered. Brief descriptions of each of these models can be found [here](#).

Review of Government Inputs/Concerns Received

As foreseen during the Buenos Aires Iann53 meeting, 31 GAC members submitted individual contributions to the CCWG-Accountability ahead of the Paris meeting. The contributions addressed a series of questions aimed at further clarifying the positions of GAC members with regard to their vision of the role of governments in a post-transition environment.

In Paris, the discussions focused on identifying common requirements such as the role of Governments with regards to public policy and the requirement that the Board does

not act outside of Icaann's mission. The group also acknowledged the challenges for Governments to make certain decisions regarding their participation into the new community model in time for the Dublin Icaann meeting. It agreed to move forward by preserving, at a minimum, the GAC's advisory role in the context of Work Stream 1.

Dependencies between the CWG-Stewardship and CCWG-Accountability

CWG-Stewardship co-Chair, Lise Fuhr, articulated the conditionalities and dependencies between the naming community proposal and the work of the CCWG-Accountability.

These dependencies fall under 6 areas:

1. ICANN Budget: Community rights regarding development and consideration
2. ICANN Board: Community rights, specifically to appoint/remove members, recall the entire Board
3. IANA Function Review: Incorporated into the bylaws
4. Customer Standing Committee: Incorporated into the bylaws
5. Appeals Mechanism: Independent Review Panel should be made applicable to IANA Functions and accessible by TLD managers
6. Fundamental bylaws: All foregoing mechanisms are to be provided for in the bylaws as "Fundamental bylaws"

The group agreed to continue coordinating their activities with the CWG-Stewardship in an effort to ensure that the recommendations put forth by the CCWG-Accountability fully meet the [requirements](#) (p. 20-21) of the naming community.

Refinements of Independent Review Process (IRP)

The group reached broad agreement on elements of the enhanced IRP, including diversity as guideline for conformation of the panel and having the panelists selection process be community-driven. Additionally, a subgroup will be formed to further develop IRP rules and procedures as well as fine tune the subject matter for IRP.

Next Steps

Over the coming months, the group faces the challenge of addressing all outstanding issues and compiling a complete second draft proposal for public comment on [x]. The CCWG-Accountability aims to have a Work Stream 1 proposal finalized and distributed to the ICANN chartering organizations prior to ICANN54 in Dublin.

Based on the current work plan, the group confirms its plans aiming at delivering the Work Stream 1 proposal to the U.S. National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA), by late October or early November.

For more information, visit:

<https://community.icann.org/display/acctcrosscomm/CCWG+on+Enhancing+ICANN+Accountability>