



FY17 COMMUNITY REQUEST FORM

All questions and completed forms should be sent to controller@icann.org.
Please remember that the deadline for FY17 Budget consideration is **15 February 2016**.

REQUEST INFORMATION

Title of Proposed Activity

Funding of six (6) additional travel slots for participation in ICANN meetings scheduled for FY 2017. **This is the RrSG's number 1 priority.**

Community Requestor Name

Registrar Stakeholder Group

Chair

Michele Neylon

ICANN Staff Community Liaison

Mike Zupke

REQUEST DESCRIPTION

1. Activity: Please describe your proposed activity in detail

Given the increase in new domain registrations, the surge of new TLDs and the ever changing policy surrounding domain name registrations, the need for more registrars to engage in policy discussions is critical. Time and finance are factors that affect all registrars no matter what their size or location. The majority of the largest registrars already commit resource towards the policy making arena as do a number of smaller registrars. As the policy discussions progress in depth and complexity, and the groups involved continue to expand and increase, the administrative burden of running the RrSG as well as being involved in the policy discussions themselves, makes it harder for both companies and individuals to commit to the level of input that is desired.

The RrSG understands that there are more travel slots being funded across the community than has been in the past, and we respectfully ask for an increase in our slots to be considered.

In keeping with the ICANN travel guidelines the RrSG currently receives travel support for three (3) members. This normally goes to our GNSO councilors due to the extra time commitments that they make. The additional slots that we are requesting should make it possible for us to engage more members in face to face participation and help encourage more members to not just get more involved in the policy debates, but also to materially contribute to ICANN working groups as well as the running of the RrSG itself. Without travel support, the diversity of the RrSG leadership will be adversely affected due to the time, financial and travel commitments, which could lead to smaller registrars or registrars from underserved regions not being represented fully.

With 6 extra travel support slots the RrSG would be able to expand its participation levels from member Registrars, and be able to help those remain engaged who are already overloaded.

The RrSG Excom would insist that each person getting travel support would have to fulfil certain engagement criteria. These would range from producing mini reports on meetings and sessions attended, joining Working Groups, and helping increase member participation. Other eligibility criteria for funding would be in situations where the member is expected to spend a substantial part of their time at the ICANN public meetings on behalf of the RrSG (this is currently our main use for funding and we would expect to see this continue).

The Excom would look to use the funding to help increase participation from RrSG members based in locations



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that are currently under-represented, but if this isn't possible due to lack of interest, the Excom would then look to increase participation from members who may not be geographically diverse, but wouldn't otherwise be able to attend meetings outside their region without the travel funding. The RrSG hope that by getting more members to come to the meetings, they will be able to report back to their workplaces on the value they derived from being at the meeting in person and be able to secure their own funding for future participation. The RrSG would also aim to use the funding to bring people from companies who simply don't have the budget to attend the meetings, but do have the technical interest and knowledge in our industry's developing issues.

The Excom would be happy to provide ICANN with detail of the criteria we are setting against each of the travel slots for each meeting. The main aim is to increase member participation, and while the RrSG want to be diverse in our strategy we don't want to have restrictive rules that could hinder this. The Excom would like to make this a fluid process and work closely with ICANN staff to show the value of the process.

During FY2016 (as noted below) we feel that this increased travel support helped greatly. Not only were we able to bring new people to meetings, but we were able to sustain the engagement and involvement of some of our more engaged members who dedicate most of their time at ICANN public meetings to RrSG related activities. However the restriction to using the fellowship guidelines during FY16 did pose problems for us, due to the current makeup of our membership. We would therefore prefer to have this restriction lifted.

While the RrSG is working closely with ICANN's Stakeholder Engagement teams to attract new members in developing countries, as well as countries where we do not have members at present, the current membership breakdown is:

AF: 5
AP: 14
EUR: 42
LAC: 4
NA: 34

2. Type of Activity: e.g. Outreach - Education/training - Travel support - Research/Study - Meetings - Other

Full travel support (travel, hotel and per diem expenses) for six (6) additional members is requested above and beyond the three (3) slots that the RrSG is already allotted.

3. Proposed Timeline/Schedule: e.g. one time activity, recurring activity

This is a recurring activity.

REQUEST OBJECTIVES

1. Strategic Alignment. Which area of ICANN's Strategic Plan does this request support?

This request strategically aligns with:

Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice: expand stakeholders; engage with staff on performance; expand inclusion and orientation of new stakeholders; enhance global outreach.

Core Operations Including IANA: Internationalization; strengthen regional presence.

A Healthy Internet Governance Eco-System: increase stakeholder diversity and cross-stakeholder work; ease of global participation; retain and support existing community while attracting new and diverse community members; increase contributions to international forums; increase technical community communication and collaboration; widen international engagement; enhance communications, accessibility and participation via enhanced tools



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2. Demographics. What audience(s), in which geographies, does your request target?
This request could benefit members from any/all regions.
3. Deliverables. What are the desired outcomes of your proposed activity?
To provide support for members who may otherwise be unable to engage in face to face meetings.
4. Metrics. What measurements will you use to determine whether your activity achieves its desired outcomes?
<p>Increased participation in face to face meetings by Registrars. Increased participation in policy discussions by Registrars. Increased membership of the RrSG.</p> <p>To ensure the participation is valuable each person that receives travel support will be required to produce a short document detailing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of the sessions attended and their key take-aways Personal assessment of the value of attending in person Recommendations for how the meeting could be improved to increase participation <p>During FY2016 we were able to bring several registrars from regions that qualify under ICANN's fellowship guidelines to public meetings that they probably would not have been able to attend. Some of these registrars are now actively involved in PDP working groups and other activities. The feedback we have received from participants has been generally positive and without this support it would be very hard for some of our more engaged members to participate at the level which they currently do. During FY2016 we have been successful in recruiting new members companies. We have also been conducting polls and surveys of our members in order to improve the format of those meetings that we organize for our members.</p>

RESOURCE PLANNING – INCREMENTAL TO ACCOMMODATE THIS REQUEST				
Staff Support Needed (not including subject matter expertise):				
Description	Timeline	Assumptions	Costs basis or parameters	Additional Comments
Subject Matter Expert Support:				
Technology Support: (telephone, Adobe Connect, web streaming, etc.)				



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Language Services Support:

Other:

Travel Support:

Funding (air, hotel and per diem) for six (6) additional participants of the RrSG to attend the three ICANN meetings scheduled for FY 2017.

Potential/planned Sponsorship Contribution:

None. However it is worth noting that the overwhelming majority of Registrars that attend the meeting will be funding their own participation.