



# FY17 COMMUNITY REQUEST FORM

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

## PRIORITY 1 - FINAL

### REQUEST INFORMATION

#### Title of Proposed Activity

Travel support to attend ICANN meetings

#### Community Requestor Name

gTLD Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG)

#### Chair

Paul Diaz

#### ICANN Staff Community Liaison

Krista Papac

### REQUEST DESCRIPTION

#### 1. Activity: Please describe your proposed activity in detail

In the second full year of the launch of the new gTLDs, with the continued introduction of new gTLDs, the RySG continues to grow in both membership and breadth and depth of activities not only within the Stakeholder Group, but in the Contracted Party House, the GNSO, and the ICANN community as a whole. As of 31 Dec 2015 (six months through our current fiscal year), the membership includes **92 Registries**, with a total of **261 delegates** on the mailing list. While the New Top Level Domain Application Group (NTAG) is in sunset until the next round, the RySG has further expanded membership through the Geographic TLD Interest Group and the Association membership (the latter pending final Board approval of the latest charter revision). The RySG anticipates further growth as new Registries launch and look to the leadership and support provided by the Stakeholder Group.

The RySG continues to be actively engaging with the new gTLD registries worldwide through a new gTLD registry welcome letter (which has been sent to every registry when their contract with ICANN is signed), through redesign of the website ([www.rysg.info](http://www.rysg.info)), working with new members at each in-person meeting to mentor them through the ICANN meeting journey, development of outreach/informational brochures which have been provided to the community as a whole since ICANN 51, working with ICANN staff to identify areas for further enhanced communication/outreach, and inviting the community at large to participate in open dialogue regarding the CCWG Accountability and CWG Stewardship endeavors. .

With this, the diversity of the RySG (geographic, cultural and economic) is also expanding in a desirable way. However, along with this growth, the number of RySG participants who are unable to attend and participate in ICANN meetings without financial assistance continues to increase. The current geographic distribution of the RySG membership (voting and non-voting) follows:

NA	43 (46.7%)
EUR	34 (36.9%)
AP	12 (13.0%)
LAC	2 (2.2%)
AF	1 (1.2%)



# FY17 COMMUNITY REQUEST FORM

ICANN currently supports seven (7) slots via core funding through the GNSO allotment. However, two (2) of these slots are restricted to adhere to the guidelines of the ICANN Fellowship Program relative to underserved regions and the financial criteria as defined by the World Bank.

The Fellowship Program guidelines are not a good match for gTLD Registry growth and, in fact, are prohibitive in being able to identify candidates to participate in and become a part of the community. The current RySG membership is not too far from the geographic distribution of the new gTLD application pool:

NA	47.2%
EUR	35.0%
AP	15.7%
LAC	1.2%
AF	.9%

The RySG respectfully requests the current restricted guidelines for these two slots be lifted and the RySG be permitted to allocate all seven (7) travel slots using the already restrictive self-imposed guidelines. Of the current five (5) unrestricted slots, three (3) are allocated first to the GNSO Council representatives, then to any Executive Committee members who may need support, then to the RySG Secretariat. The RySG requires all who request travel support beyond this to demonstrate their need, a statement of interest, how they can benefit by participation, a commitment to participate in all registry-related sessions, and take an active role in the RySG following their participation.

With this lifted restriction, it would allow us to provide support for a broader base of RySG participants. This would not only provide an opportunity for enrichment of delegates to participate in new gTLD and general RySG work sessions and meetings, but also in GNSO-related sessions and other critical, informative and productive Global Domain Division and ICANN meetings as a whole.

In addition, this would allow us to develop and mentor leadership within the RySG, enable small registries or those with new business models to participate, and also provide the opportunity to reach out to those underserved geographic regions within the gTLD registries community, in particular to the three regions that the AoC Accountability & Transparency Review Team identified as underrepresented, AP, LAC & AF.

Therefore, the RySG respectfully submits a request for the removal of the Fellowship Program restrictions for these two (2) travel slots, for a total of seven (7) to participate in each of the three ICANN meetings during FY 17. The RySG criteria of financial need would still apply and priority would be given to delegates from AP, LAC and AF.

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

Full travel support (airfare, hotel and per diem) for unrestricted travel for the two (2) slots as requested, above and beyond the five (5) slots the RySG is already allocated.

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

This would be a recurring activity.

## REQUEST OBJECTIVES

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



## FY17 COMMUNITY REQUEST FORM

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

### 2. *Demographics*. What audience(s), in which geographies, does your request target?

Based on the individuals who may benefit from this opportunity, this request could potentially benefit any one of the five principal geographic regions. In addition to requirements that any individuals granted travel support funding be active in RySG activities and in the meetings for which funding is provided, the RySG will continue to adhere to self-imposed guidelines for individuals requesting support to travel to any one of the ICANN meetings.

### 3. *Deliverables*. What are the desired outcomes of your proposed activity?

1. Active participation at the three ICANN global meetings by individuals who otherwise could not attend due to funding constraints.
2. More geographic diversity in RySG participation including from underserved regions.
3. More diversity in terms of types of businesses participating in RySG, GNSO and ICANN meetings.
4. Expanding the resource pool for RySG and GNSO policy development efforts including preparing potential new leaders.

### 4. *Metrics*. What measurements will you use to determine whether your activity achieves its desired outcomes?

1. Increase in the number of participants for the face-to-face RySG meetings.
2. Improved geographic diversity of RySG participants in the ICANN meetings.
3. Addition of participants who have previously not been able to attend very many ICANN meetings in-person.
4. To ensure that the RySG requirements for receiving travel support are met and to measure the metrics above, funded travelers will be asked to prepare and submit a meeting report that provides at a minimum the following information: A list of the meetings attended along with any key observations and interventions made; number of previous ICANN in-person meetings attended; geographic region; personal assessment of the value of attending in-person; recommendations for travel funding criteria in the future; any requests for follow-up assistance to reinforce the experience and better prepare for future RySG/GNSO/ICANN involvement.

## RESOURCE PLANNING – INCREMENTAL TO ACCOMMODATE THIS REQUEST

**Staff Support Needed (not including subject matter expertise):**



# FY17 COMMUNITY REQUEST FORM

Description	Timeline	Assumptions	Costs basis or parameters	Additional Comments
None				
<b>Subject Matter Expert Support:</b>				
None				
<b>Technology Support: (telephone, Adobe Connect, web streaming, etc.)</b>				
None				
<b>Language Services Support:</b>				
None				
<b>Other:</b>				
None				
<b>Travel Support:</b>				
As outlined above, request for funding (airfare, hotel and per diem) for two (2) participants to be used in accordance with the guidelines of the RySG and be relieved of the restrictions affiliated with the guidelines of the ICANN Fellowship Program.				
<b>Potential/planned Sponsorship Contribution:</b>				
None known at this time. However, it is important to note that the overwhelming majority of participants in the RySG fund their own participation to attend the ICANN meetings. It is the RySG's practice to invite delegates who request travel support if they could not otherwise attend/participate in the meetings.				