

SO/AC Accountability Final Report

Recap of major milestones:

- Sub-group approved draft recommendations for plenary consideration at its 2 March 2017 meeting.
- Plenary approved draft recommendations for public consultation at its 29 March 2017 meeting.
- Sub-group approves final recommendation for plenary consideration at its 14 September 2017 meeting. This includes:
 - Response to all public comments made on draft recommendations
 - Red-line of final recommendations vs draft recommendations
 - Final recommendations
 - Recommendation to plenary that there is no need for a public consultation on the final recommendations.

SO/AC Accountability Public Consultation on draft Recommendations

- 12 respondents
- Roughly 50% of specific comments were supportive of the draft recommendations.
- Most of the comments were addressed by adding clarifications to the recommendations.
- There was no support for incorporating the review of SOAC Best Practices in the ATRT reviews.
- There was no support for a Mutual Accountability Roundtable.
- There was no support for applying the IRP to SOACs.
- Several comments were rejected as they recommended changes which were outside the scope of the sub-group

SO/AC Accountability Summary of major changes to the draft recommendations

- Best Practices are now Good Practices
- Further clarified that implementation of Good Practices is not required.
- Removed the requirement for the review of SOAC good practices in the ATRT.
- Added that organizational reviews could include an assessment of Good Practices implementation in the SO/ACs.

SO/AC Accountability Summary of major changes to the draft recommendations

Track 1 - Accountability recommendations:

- Added - 6. Each Empowered Community (EC) Decisional Participant should publicly disclose any decision it submits to the Empowered Community. Publication should include description of processes followed to reach the decision.
- Added - 7. Links to SO/AC transparency and accountability (policies, procedures, and documented practices) should be available from ICANN's main website, under "accountability". ICANN staff would have the responsibility to maintain those links on the ICANN website.

SO/AC Accountability Summary of major changes to the draft recommendations

Track 1 - Transparency recommendations:

- Reworded recommendation 5:
 - From - Notes, minutes, or records of all membership meetings should be made publicly available.
 - To - Records of open meetings should be made publicly available. Records include notes, minutes, recordings, transcripts, and chat, as applicable.
- Added 6. Records of closed meetings should be made available to members, and may be made publicly available at the discretion of the AC/SO/Group. Records include notes, minutes, recordings, transcripts, and chat, as applicable.

SO/AC Accountability Summary of major changes to the draft recommendations

Track 1 - Participation recommendations:

- Removed original recommendation - 4. For any meetings, be they closed to members only or open to anyone, the members have to be able to access notes, minutes, and/or recordings, subject to exceptions for confidential matters.
- Added 4. An AC/SO/Group that elects its officers should consider term limits.
- Added 6. if ICANN were to expand the list of languages that it supports, this support should also be made available to SO/AC/Groups.

SO/AC Accountability Summary of major changes to the draft recommendations

Track 3. Assess whether the Independent Review Process (IRP) should be applied to SO & AC activities:

- Clarification of the Obuds role is sub-section 3 with added text
- Therefore, our group's conclusion is that the IRP should not be made applicable to activities of SO/AC/Subgroups.Groups. The appropriate mechanism for individuals to challenge an AC or SO action or inaction is though ICANN's Ombuds Office, whose bylaws and charter are adequate to handle such complaints.
- We note that duties and powers of the Ombuds Office may be further enhanced and clarified through recommendations of the CCWG Work Stream 2 project "Considering enhancements to the Ombudsman's role and function", as provided in ICANN Bylaws.

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Track 1 –

Recommendations present 29 (was 25 in draft report) good practice recommendations for SO/ACs to consider implementing, in areas of Accountability, Transparency, Participation, Outreach, and Updates to Policies and Procedures.

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Track 2 – Recommends not implementing the Mutual Accountability Roundtable.



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Track 3 –

Concludes that IRP should not be made applicable to activities of SO/ACs.