

At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group (OFBWG)

Description

The At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group (OFBWG) is an At-Large Working Group within the Operations section of the At-Large Organisation, tasked with preparing statements and requests related to ICANN finance and budget, strategy, and operational initiatives. The Chair of the OFBWG has been delegated by the ALAC Chair who is in charge of At-Large Operations.

The Operations Finance and Budget Working Group (OFBWG) arose out of a noticeable increase in the weekly workload of the Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG). The CPWG recommended that any ICANN Operating Initiative (non-policy) public comments should be considered by another group. The Finance and Budget Subcommittee within the Operations section of the At-Large Organisation was the logical place, as ICANN's Operating Initiatives are coordinated by ICANN's Finance section.

However, the role of the [Finance and Budget Subcommittee \(FBSC\)](#) is quite specific. It coordinates the annual additional budget requests from the ALAC and RALOs to go into the yearly ICANN budget. Because of this specific task on behalf of the ALAC, the [membership](#) of the FBSC consists of one ALAC member and one community member from each of the five RALOs to vote on any financial matters relating mainly to Additional Budget Requests (ABRs). While most decisions by the FBSC are by consensus, should a vote be required, this vote is coordinated by the ALAC Chair. The FBSC committee and its purpose will continue.

The Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group (OFBWG) is a separate and open membership group that will consist of Participants from the geographically diverse At-Large community, who will contribute to the decision-making of the FBSC, public comments and other matters related to ICANN's Operating Budget and any Operating Initiatives that impact on the At-Large community. The focus document of the OFBWG is [ICANN's Strategic Plan 2021-2025](#), ICANN Org's [F22-FY26 Operating and Financial Plan](#) (and the current FY22 Operating Plan and Budget which is included in it).

The objectives of the group are:

Prioritisation: To study the operating initiatives of the five priority areas identified by the OFBWG at the beginning of FY22 which were:

- a. Strengthen MSM - facilitate diverse and inclusive participation
- b. Strengthen ICANN Community's Decision making processes
- c. Universal Acceptance (tied with 2)
- d. Planning at ICANN
- e. Monitor legislation, etc that may impact on ICANN's mission

At Working group level: To identify within each of the operating initiatives

- a. a lead group for each initiative to investigate what ICANN Org is focusing on within that initiative and within the FY22 timeframe
- b. what areas within the operating initiative specifically impact At-Large
- c. provide a statement that may comment on these impacts for consideration by the specific section of ICANN Org (bring staff in to discuss these issues)
- d. and develop a plan of action for At-Large that will support that initiative across the At-Large community, for example,
 - i. how we as a community can support the Org's MSM, community decision-making, UA, planning or legislative initiatives
 - ii. how can we help to strengthen each of these initiatives within our regional communities
 - iii. what ABR support might we need to request to help us implement these initiatives at the grassroots level

At Task level: Tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Contributing to the coordination of annual Additional Budget Requests from the ALAC and RALOs, to go into the yearly ICANN budget
- Drafting any statement related to the ICANN strategic plan and processes
- Drafting any statement regarding ICANN's operational initiatives
- Drafting any statement related to the ICANN budget process

Contact

Staff Support Lead: Silvia Vivanco and Heidi Ullrich

Main mailing list: ofb-wg@icann.org

For Member votes: finance-sc@atlarge-lists.icann.org

Community Participation in Planning



At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group Action Items

Prioritization Activities:

OFB-WG Recommendation Prioritization Sub-Group

ICANN73 At-Large Policy Session 2: Prioritisation Framework : ALAC Prioritisation Assessment Tool Review

ICANN Finance and Operations WG Timetable for Input into ICANN Finance and Planning Activities FY24

FY24 (Activities during 2022-2023)

| Activity | ICANN Launch | Deadline for Community Comment | OFB-WG Lead | Draft Comment | Final Comment | Status |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| FY24 Strategic Trends Outlook Session | | Mid-March 2022 | OFB-WG Co-chairs (ALT Plus) | | | Completed |
| FY24 IANA Operating Plan and Budget | Mid-October | Mid-November 2022 | OFB-WG | | | |
| FY24 ICANN Operating Plan and Budget | Mid-December | End of January 2023 | OFB-WG | | | |
| FY24 Additional Budget Requests | Late November | End of January 2023 | FBSC | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |



High-level FY23_ 24 Summary Timeline.pdf

FY23 (Activities during 2021-2022)

| Activity | ICANN Launch | Deadline for Community Comment | OFB-WG Lead | Draft Comment | Final Comment | Status |
|--|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Proposed Supplemental Fund for Implementation of Community Recommendations | | | | | | |
| FY24 Strategic Trends Outlook Session | | Mid-March 2022 | | | | Completed |
| FY23 IANA Operating Plan and Budget | Mid-October | Mid-November 2021 | OFB-WG | | | Completed |
| FY23 ICANN Operating Plan and Budget | Mid-December | End of January 2022 | OFB-WG | | | Completed |
| FY23 Additional Budget Requests | Late November | End of January 2022 | FBSC | | | Completed |
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Planning activities (Jan to Dec 2021)



FY22-26 Operating Initiatives



ALAC OFB-WG Operating Init...erview-01 July 2021[1].pdf



ALAC-OFB-WG Planning Prio...ltations-29 July 2021.pdf

OFB-WG Poll Results for FY22-26 Operating Initiatives

Priority Initiatives:

1. Strengthen MSM - facilitate diverse and inclusive participation
2. Strengthen ICANN Community's Decision making processes
3. Universal Acceptance (tied with 2)
4. Planning at ICANN
5. Monitor legislation, etc that may impact on ICANN's mission

| # | Initiative | High (B) | Med (R) | Low (Y) | Top Priorities | End User Interests | Team |
|----|--|-------------|-------------|----------|-----------------|---|---|
| 1 | Support Evolution of the Root Server system | 36.4 | 54.5 | 9.1 | | | |
| 2 | Facilitate DNS Ecosystem Improvements | 36.4 | 54.5 | 9.1 | | | |
| 3 | Strengthen MSM - facilitate diverse and inclusive participation | 90.9 | 9.1 | | 1 | The ability to ensure that input in ICANN's policy is globally representative. | Marita Moll |
| 4 | Strengthen ICANN Community's Decision making processes | 63.6 | 36.4 | | 2 (tied) | | Maureen Hilyard, Vanda Scartezini |
| 5 | Develop Internal and External Ethics Policies | 10 | 50 | 40 | | | |
| 6 | Promote & sustain a competition environment in the DNS | 20 | 40 | 40 | | | |
| 7 | Universal Acceptance | 63.6 | 36.4 | | 2 (tied) | UA promotes greater choice and broader access for end users. | Satish Babu, Vanda Scartezini |
| 8 | Root zone management | 30 | 50 | 20 | | | |
| 9 | Evaluate, Align and Facilitate Improved Engagement | 30 | 60 | 10 | | | |
| 10 | Improve Governmental and IGO engagement & participation | 27.3 | 54.5 | 18.2 | | | |
| 11 | Monitor legislation, etc that may impact on ICANN's mission | 36.4 | 63.3 | | 5 | Providing educational information to governments. | Holly Raiche |
| 12 | Formalise ICANN Org Funding Model & improve understanding of long term DN Market drivers | 30 | 60 | 10 | | | |
| 13 | Implement new gTLD Auction Proceeds Recommendations | 30 | 40 | 30 | | | |
| 14 | Planning at ICANN | 45.5 | 45.5 | 9 | 4 | | Ricardo Holmquist, Dave Kissoondoyal |
| 15 | ICANN reserves | 18.2 | 27.3 | 54.5 | | | |

Members

The participants of the Operations, Finance and Budget Working (OFBWG), organized by regional affiliation, are noted below.

2022

| Region | Name | Members* |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| | Holly Raiche | Chair |
| | Ricardo Holmquist | Vice Chair |
| | Maureen Hilyard | Advisor |
| AFRALO/RALO | Aziz Hilali | Member |
| AFRALO/ALAC | Dave Kissoondoyal | Member |
| APRALO/RALO | | |
| APRALO/ALAC | Naveed Bin Rais | Member |
| EURALO/RALO | | |
| EURALO/ALAC | | |
| LACRALO/RALO | | |
| LACRALO/ALAC | | |
| NARALO/RALO | Judith Hellerstein | Member |
| NARALO/ALAC | | |
| Region | Name | Participants |
| APRALO | Sivasubramanian Muthusamy | Participant |

| | | |
|--------|-----------------|-------------|
| NARALO | Denise Hochbaum | Participant |
|--------|-----------------|-------------|

2019-2020

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*Please note that the RALO appointed Members have voting rights only for the annual ICANN Additional Budget Request (ABR) process. All other OFBWG Activities will aim to work by consensus of both Member and Participants.

Meetings

Next Call: [14 April 2022](#)

Last Call: [31 March 2022](#)

[Previous Calls](#)

Upcoming OFB-WG/Planning Workshops and Calls for July through September 2021

1. OFB-WG/Planning Team Workshop on the Planning Prioritization Framework Design Elements to include the definition of Participants and the Roles and Responsibilities of the participants. (End of July for 90 mins)

2. OFB-WG-Planning Team Workshop to include the review of several researched Prioritization techniques to see which ones fit the ICANN model the best. (Early August for 90 mins)
3. OFB-WG Call - Follow Up on Operating Initiatives (End of August for 60 mins)
4. OFB-WG Call - IANA Functions Public Comment (Early September for 60 mins)

Policy Advice and Comments Workspaces

2020 ALAC Policy Comments & Advice

- [At-Large Workspace: Draft PTI FY21-24 Strategic Plan](#)
- [AFRALO-APRALO Statement: Middle East and Adjoining Countries \(MEAC\) Strategy 2021-2025](#)

OFB-WG Recommendation Prioritization Sub-Group

- [OFB-WG Recommendation Prioritization Sub-Group Workspace](#)

Finance and Budget Issues

[Approved FY21-25 Operating and Financial Plan and the FY21 Budget](#)

[ICANN Strategic Plan FY21-FY25](#)

[At-Large FY21 Budget Development Workspace](#) (for the development of FY21 Additional Budget Requests)

[At-Large FY20 Additional Budget Request Implementation Workspace](#)

- [FY20 RALO Requests for Funding to support an Outreach Activity](#)

[An Update Regarding the Board's Operational Priorities](#)- Blog by ICANN Board Chair Maarten Botterman; 13 May 2020

Operational Initiatives

Multistakeholder Model Issues

Organizational Review Issues

References

[ALAC Subcommittee on Finance and Budget](#) - Previous FBSC Workspace (archived in May 2020)

Documents

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The Operations Finance and Budget Working Group (OFBWG) arose out of a noticeable increase in the weekly workload of the Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG). The CPWG recommended that any ICANN Operating Initiative (non-policy) public comments should be considered by another group. The Finance and Budget Subcommittee within the Operations section of the At-Large Organisation was the logical place, as ICANN's Operating Initiatives are coordinated by ICANN's Finance section .

However, the role of the [Finance and Budget Subcommittee \(FBSC\)](#) is quite specific. It coordinates the annual additional budget requests from the ALAC and RALOs to go into the yearly ICANN budget. Because of this specific task on behalf of the ALAC, the membership of the FBSC consists of one ALAC member and one community member from each of the five RALOs to vote on any financial matters relating mainly to Additional Budget Requests (ABRs). While most decisions by the FBSC are by consensus, should a vote be required, this vote is coordinated by the ALAC Chair. The FBSC committee and its purpose will continue.

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The tasks of the OFBWG include, but are not limited to:

- Contributing to the coordination of annual additional budget requests from the ALAC and RALOs, to go into the yearly ICANN budget
- Drafting any statement related to the ICANN budget process
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Contact

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Main mailing list: ofb-wg@icann.org

For Member votes: finance-sc@atlarge-lists.icann.org

Community Participation in Planning



At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group Action Items

ICANN Finance and Operations WG Timetable for Input into ICANN Finance and Planning Activities

| | ICANN | Deadline for | OFB-WG | Draft | Final | Status |
|--|-------|--------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|
|--|-------|--------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|

| Activity (2021-2022) | Launch | Community Comment | Lead | Comment | Comment | |
|--|---------------|-------------------|------|---------|---------|--|
| Proposed Supplemental Fund for Implementation of Community Recommendations | | | | | | |
| FY21 Strategic Outlook | | | | | | |
| FY23 IANA Operating Plan and Budget | Mid-October | Mid-November | | | | |
| FY23 ICANN Operating Plan and Budget | Mid-December | End of January | | | | |
| Additional Budget Requests | Late November | End of January | FBSC | | | |
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Planning activities (Jan to Dec 2021)



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Meetings

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Last Call: [21 October 2021](#)

Upcoming OFB-WG/Planning Workshops and Calls for July through September 2021

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Finance and Budget Issues

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Contact

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Main mailing list: ofb-wg@icann.org

For Member votes: finance-sc@atlarge-lists.icann.org

The timeline illustrates the ICANN Plan Development and Adoption Process, spanning from January to December. The process is divided into two rows of activities, each marked by a colored pin indicating the time period.

Top Row:

- Jan-Mar:** Strategic Outlook Trend Identification
- Apr-Jul:** Trend Analysis and Impact Assessment; IANA Plans Kickoff and Development
- Jul-Nov:** ICANN Plans Kickoff and Development; IANA Plans Public Comments
- Nov-Dec:** ICANN Draft Plan Publication; IANA Plans Adoption

Bottom Row:

- Dec-Feb:** ICANN Plan Public Comments; IANA Plans Empowered Community Period
- Feb-Mar:** ICANN Plan Revision
- May-Jun:** ICANN Plan Adoption and Empowered Community Period

ICANN Finance and Operations WG Timetable for Input into ICANN Finance and Planning Activities

[illegible]

Planning activities (Jan to Dec 2021)



FY22-26 Operating Initiatives



ALAC OFB-WG Operating Init...erview-01 July 2021[1].pdf



ALAC-OFB-WG Planning Prio...ltations-29 July 2021.pdf

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Meetings

Next Call: [16 December 2021](#)

Last Call: [21 October 2021](#)

Upcoming OFB-WG/Planning Workshops and Calls for July through September 2021

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References

[ALAC Subcommittee on Finance and Budget](#) - Previous FBSC Workspace (archived in May 2020)

Documents

Description

The At-Large Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group (OFBWG) is an At-Large Working Group within the Operations section of the At-Large Organisation, tasked with preparing statements and requests related to ICANN finance and budget, strategy, and operational initiatives. The Chair of the OFBWG has been delegated by the ALAC Chair who is in charge of At-Large Operations.

The Operations Finance and Budget Working Group (OFBWG) arose out of a noticeable increase in the weekly workload of the Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG). The CPWG recommended that any ICANN Operating Initiative (non-policy) public comments should be considered by another group. The Finance and Budget Subcommittee within the Operations section of the At-Large Organisation was the logical place, as ICANN's Operating Initiatives are coordinated by ICANN's Finance section.

However, the role of the [Finance and Budget Subcommittee \(FBSC\)](#) is quite specific. It coordinates the annual additional budget requests from the ALAC and RALOs to go into the yearly ICANN budget. Because of this specific task on behalf of the ALAC, the membership of the FBSC consists of one ALAC member and one community member from each of the five RALOs to vote on any financial matters relating mainly to Additional Budget Requests (ABRs). While most decisions by the FBSC are by consensus, should a vote be required, this vote is coordinated by the ALAC Chair. The FBSC committee and its purpose will continue.

The Operations, Finance and Budget Working Group (OFBWG) is a separate and open membership group that will consist of Participants from the geographically diverse At-Large community, who will contribute to the decision-making of the FBSC, public comments and other matters related to ICANN's Operating Budget and any Operating Initiatives that impact on the At-Large community.

The tasks of the OFBWG include, but are not limited to:

- Contributing to the coordination of annual additional budget requests from the ALAC and RALOs, to go into the yearly ICANN budget
- Drafting any statement related to the ICANN budget process
- Drafting any statement regarding ICANN's operational initiatives
- Drafting any statement related to the ICANN strategic plan and processes

Contact

Staff Support Lead: Heidi Ullrich

Main mailing list: ofb-wg@icann.org

For Member votes: finance-sc@atlarge-lists.icann.org

The timeline illustrates the ICANN Plan Development and Adoption Process, spanning from January to December. The process is divided into two rows of activities, each marked by a colored pin indicating the time period.

Top Row:

- Jan-Mar:** Strategic Outlook Trend Identification
- Apr-Jul:** Trend Analysis and Impact Assessment; IANA Plans Kickoff and Development
- Jul-Nov:** ICANN Plans Kickoff and Development; IANA Plans Public Comments
- Nov-Dec:** ICANN Draft Plan Publication; IANA Plans Adoption

Bottom Row:

- Dec-Feb:** ICANN Plan Public Comments; IANA Plans Empowered Community Period
- Feb-Mar:** ICANN Plan Revision
- May-Jun:** ICANN Plan Adoption and Empowered Community Period

ICANN Finance and Operations WG Timetable for Input into ICANN Finance and Planning Activities

[illegible]

Planning activities (Jan to Dec 2021)



FY22-26 Operating Initiatives



ALAC OFB-WG Operating Init...erview-01 July 2021[1].pdf



ALAC-OFB-WG Planning Prio...ltations-29 July 2021.pdf

Poll Results for FY22-26 Operating Initiatives

Priority Initiatives:

1. Strengthen MSM - facilitate diverse and inclusive participation

2. Strengthen ICANN Community's Decision making processes
3. Universal Acceptance (tied with 2)
4. Planning at ICANN
5. Monitor legislation, etc that may impact on ICANN's mission

| # | Initiative | High (B) | Med (R) | Low (Y) | Top Priorities | End User Interests | Team |
|----|--|-------------|-------------|----------|-----------------|---|---|
| 1 | Support Evolution of the Root Server system | 36.4 | 54.5 | 9.1 | | | |
| 2 | Facilitate DNS Ecosystem Improvements | 36.4 | 54.5 | 9.1 | | | |
| 3 | Strengthen MSM - facilitate diverse and inclusive participation | 90.9 | 9.1 | | 1 | The ability to ensure that input in ICANN's policy is globally representative. | Marita Moll |
| 4 | Strengthen ICANN Community's Decision making processes | 63.6 | 36.4 | | 2 (tied) | | Maureen Hilyard, Vanda Scartezini |
| 5 | Develop Internal and External Ethics Policies | 10 | 50 | 40 | | | |
| 6 | Promote & sustain a competition environment in the DNS | 20 | 40 | 40 | | | |
| 7 | Universal Acceptance | 63.6 | 36.4 | | 2 (tied) | UA promotes greater choice and broader access for end users. | Satish Babu, Vanda Scartezini |
| 8 | Root zone management | 30 | 50 | 20 | | | |
| 9 | Evaluate, Align and Facilitate Improved Engagement | 30 | 60 | 10 | | | |
| 10 | Improve Governmental and IGO engagement & participation | 27.3 | 54.5 | 18.2 | | | |
| 11 | Monitor legislation, etc that may impact on ICANN's mission | 36.4 | 63.3 | | 5 | Providing educational information to governments. | Holly Raiche |
| 12 | Formalise ICANN Org Funding Model & improve understanding of long term DN Market drivers | 30 | 60 | 10 | | | |
| 13 | Implement new gTLD Auction Proceeds Recommendations | 30 | 40 | 30 | | | |
| 14 | Planning at ICANN | 45.5 | 45.5 | 9 | 4 | | Ricardo Holmquist, Dave Kissoondoyal |
| 15 | ICANN reserves | 18.2 | 27.3 | 54.5 | | | |

Members

The 2019-2020 participants of the Operations, Finance and Budget Working (OFBWG), organized by regional affiliation, are noted below.

| Region | Name | Members* |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| | Holly Raiche | Chair |
| | Ricardo Holmquist | Vice Chair |
| | Maureen Hilyard | Advisor |
| AFRALO/RALO | Aziz Hilali | Member |
| AFRALO/ALAC | Dave Kissoondoyal | Member |
| APRALO/RALO | Satish Babu | Member |
| APRALO/ALAC | Justine Chew | Member |
| EURALO/RALO | Sébastien Bachollet | Member |
| EURALO/ALAC | Matthias Hudobnik | Member |
| LACRALO/RALO | Harold Arcos | Member |
| LACRALO/ALAC | Carlos Raúl Gutiérrez | Member |
| NARALO/RALO | Judith Hellerstein | Member |
| NARALO | Marita Moll | Member |
| Region | Name | Participants |
| AFRALO | Abdeldjalil Bachar Bong | Participant |
| AFRALO | Sarata Omane | Participant |

| | | |
|---------|------------------------|-------------|
| AFRALO | Bukola Oronti | Participant |
| AFRALO | Joan Katambi | Participant |
| AFRALO | Raymond Mamattah | Participant |
| AFRALO | Sarah Kiden | Participant |
| AFRALO | Sonigitu Ekpe | Participant |
| AFRALO | Michel Tchonang Linze | Participant |
| AFRALO | Patricia Esther Akello | Participant |
| APRALO | Fouad Bajwa | Participant |
| APRALO | Nadira AlAraj | Participant |
| EURALO | Clément Genty | Participant |
| EURALO | Joanna Kulesza | Participant |
| LACRALO | Kerry Kerr | Participant |
| LACRALO | Vanda Scartezini | Participant |

***Please note that the RALO appointed Members have voting rights only for the annual ICANN Additional Budget Request (ABR) process. All other OFBWG Activities will aim to work by consensus of both Member and Participants.**

Meetings

Next Call: [18 November 2021](#)

Last Call: [21 October 2021](#)

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