

At-Large ICANN Draft FY16 Operating Plan & Budget Workspace

Comment Close Date	Statement Name	Status	Assignee (s)	Call for Comments Open	Call for Comments Close	Vote Open	Vote Close	Date of Submission	Staff Contact and Email	Statement Number
01.05.2015	ICANN Draft FY16 Operating Plan & Budget	SUBMITTED	Olivier Crepin-Leblond	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Carole Cornell planning@icann.org	AL-ALAC-ST-0515-01-00-EN

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Brief Overview

Focusing on ICANN's commitment to the multi-stakeholder model, the ICANN Draft FY16 Operating Plan & Budget is provided for community discussion and public comment. ICANN is seeking general feedback on this plan, which implements the first year of ICANN's Draft Five-Year Operating Plan, in support of the Five-Year Strategic Plan (approved by the Board in October 2014).

Section I: Description, Explanation, and Purpose

Staff has developed a Draft FY16 Operating Plan & Budget incorporating the applicable input from the community consultation of the Draft Five-Year Operating Plan and Financial Model. ICANN is now seeking community feedback on the Draft FY16 Operating Plan & Budget, which includes the plan of activities and budget for the first year of the Draft Five-Year Operating Plan.

Section II: Background

ICANN's planning process consists of a continuous cycle of three planning components: [Strategic Plan](#) [PDF, 1.65 MB], [Five-Year Operating Plan](#) [PDF, 1.05 MB], and Annual Operating Plan & Budget.

- Strategic Plan is developed with community input and updated every five years. The Strategic Plan shapes our priorities, informs our budget and drives our activities. ICANN's Strategic Plan for FY16-FY20 was approved by the Board and published on 14 October 2014.
- Five-Year Operating Plan, which is developed with community input and is updated yearly, contains a Five Year Planning Calendar, a Financial Model, and at the Goal level: corresponding Key Performance Indicators, Risks, 5-Year Phasing, and a list of Portfolios
- Annual Operating Plan & Budget is developed based on the Five-Year Operating Plan along with input from the community.

The cycle completes with Achievement & Progress Reporting.

Following the approval of the FY16-FY20 Strategic Plan in October 2014, ICANN staff developed and obtained community consultation on a Draft Five-Year Operating Plan, which is scheduled for Board approval in June 2015.

Section III: Relevant Resources

- Draft FY16 Operating Plan & Budget [[PDF](#), 26 MB] [[DOCX](#), 2.8 MB]
- FY16 Projects by project [[PDF](#), 573 KB]
- Planning Process: <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/planning-en>
- Approved Strategic Plan: <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/strategic-plan-2016-2020-10oct14-en.pdf> [PDF, 1.64 MB]
- Financial Information: <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/financials-2012-02-25-en>
- Report on the Five-Year Operating Plan consultation: <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/report-comments-draft-five-year-ops-06feb15-en.pdf> [PDF, 666 KB]

Section IV: Additional Information

A session on Strategic and Operating Planning held at the ICANN 51 in Los Angeles – see <http://la51.icann.org/en/schedule/wed-strategic-planning> for further details.

Fadi Chehade's (President and CEO) opening address at ICANN 51: <https://www.icann.org/presidents-corner>

Section V: Reports

Staff Contact

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FINAL VERSION TO BE SUBMITTED IF RATIFIED

Please [click here](#) to download a copy of the PDF document below.

FINAL DRAFT VERSION TO BE VOTED UPON BY THE ALAC

The ALAC thanks the ICANN Finance Department for the significant improvements in the establishment of the proposed budget, specifically when it comes to engaging ICANN Communities at an early stage.

The ALAC is satisfied with the Budget proposal as a whole, but has one specific item of concern, related to the evolution of support for ICANN Policy Development.

Both the GNSO and the ALAC's activities are essentially funded under the ICANN Policy budget. Policy Development is a Core activity at ICANN. **It is this Multistakeholder Policy Development that differentiates ICANN from any other organisation.** The overall budget allocated to Policy Development and supporting the SO/ACs, including constituency travel support, is about 11.4 million US Dollars – a figure derived from the document supplied. Although it is understood that this might not strictly be the total budget for SO/AC Policy Support, this figure constitutes the bulk of its budget. Yet, this is a comparably small figure compared to the overall ICANN Budget expense for the year of 118.6 million US Dollars (113 million US Dollar baseline excluding initiatives) – surprisingly less than 10% of total budget for a Core Activity and Key differentiation factor.

The ALAC has significant concerns about the growth of this budget which it believes to be too low.

This concern translates directly to concerns about staffing levels. Data in the table on page 9 of the Draft FY16 Budget by Portfolio and Project (“1.1 Resource Allocation”) indicates that in the coming financial year 27 FTEs will support policy development, or around 8% of total FTEs. The budget indicates that 16 new staff hires are expected for FY16, yet, although there appears to be a rise of 1.7 FTE in Policy Support, none of the hires seem to be in Policy Support. Both the GNSO and the ALAC have not seen, nor are they expecting a reduction in their activities. Quite the contrary, the ALAC forecasts a number of new PDPs, review processes, as well as a potential next round of gTLDs which will only serve to increase the demand on already busy Staff. Its Community of At-Large Structures will soon reach the 200 mark – translating to a need for increased support of its increased activity. The ALAC is therefore concerned that this need to increase FTEs supporting Policy both in the GNSO and in the ALAC is not currently reflected in the budget and may lead to both Staff overwork and Community frustration, thus leading to a reduction in Community involvement that risks making long term evolution of the Multistakeholder model unsustainable.

FIRST DRAFT SUBMITTED

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