

This handbook describes the process for the **Empowered Community to utilize the Approval Actions Powers**. To learn more about the Empowered Community and the other Empowered Community Powers, please check out the [Empowered Community Administration web page](#), explore the public archive of the [Empowered Community Administration's mailing list](#) or contact the Empowered Community Administration at ECAdmin@icann.org.

PROCESS FOR UTILIZING THE BOARD RECALL POWER

The Power to Recall the Board: Introduction

This procedure is outlined in the ICANN Bylaws [Annex D: Section 3.3](#), and applies to seeking to recall all ICANN Board Directors with the exception of the Board President.

This power may be triggered if an individual or organization submits a petition to a Decisional Participant and that Decisional Participant determines to support the Board Recall petition. The Decisional Participant notifies the Empowered Community Administration so that notice of the petition is posted on the [Empowered Community Correspondence webpage](#), and the [Empowered Community webpage](#) and the [Empowered Communication Administration's mail list](#).

Phase 1: Board Recall Petition Period

The Board Recall Power is initiated when an individual submits a petition requesting removal of all Board Directors (except the President and CEO). The petition may be submitted to any Decisional Participant, initiating the Petition Period, lasting 21 days, ending at 11:59 pm, *local time at ICANN's principal office*.

The Decisional Participant notifies the ICANN Secretary of any petitions received. The Decisional Participant then follows its internal procedures to determine if it will accept or reject the petition. If the Decisional Participant does not accept the petition within the 21-day Petition period, the process ends and the Empowered Community Administration must send a notice of the termination of the Board Recall process. If the Decisional Participant accepts the petition within the 21-day period, it has 24 hours after accepting the petition to notify the Empowered Community Administration and the ICANN Secretary of its decision.

Phase 2: Board Recall Petition Support Period

If the applicable Decisional Participant accepts the petition, the Petition Support Period commences upon the expiration of the Petition Phase, and expires on the seventh day at 11:59 pm, *local time at ICANN's principal office*.

The Petitioning Decisional Participant communicates with the other Decisional Participants, either directly or through the Empowered Community Administration, to determine if there is support from at least two other Decisional Participants.

All Decisional Participants should review support-seeking petitions according to their own internal processes. With a decision to support a petition, the now "Supporting Decisional Participant" notifies the Empowered Community Administration, the ICANN Secretary and all other Decisional Participants.

If the eligible petition fails to receive support from at least two other Decisional Participants by the Petition Support Period's end, the Empowered Community Administration sends a "Recall Board Process Termination Notice" to the ICANN Secretary, ending the process.

All communication records are posted on the applicable ICANN.Org webpage.

Phase 3: Board Recall Community Forum Period

When the Petition Support Period expires and there is a Supported Petition, the Community Forum Period commences. This phase lasts for 21 days from the expiration of the Petition Support Period, ending at 11:59 pm, *local time at ICANN's principal office*. The Empowered Community may request that the Community Forum take place in person at the next ICANN Public Meeting. If such a request is made, then the Community Forum is extended beyond 21 days, and the phase expires at 11:59pm, *local time* of the city hosting the ICANN public meeting on the official last day of that ICANN public meeting.

Pre-Community Forum Conference Call, by Request

The Empowered Community Administration, on behalf of the Petitioning or Supporting Decisional Participants, may request a pre-Community Forum conference call, which the ICANN org must schedule prior to the Community Forum.

The Community Forum

The Empowered Community Administration ensures that the ICANN org, and any Supporting Organizations or Advisory Committees, understand how to submit views and questions for discussion during the Community Forum.

The Empowered Community Administration coordinates with the ICANN org regarding the logistics, administration, and other meeting requests, such as presentations, moderation, and translations, for the conduct of the Community Forum.

For the Board Recall Action, at least one face-to-face Community Forum is required, and the ICANN org will confirm that the appropriate ICANN staff and the entire Board attend. The entire ICANN community is invited to participate in the Community Forum. The ICANN org and the ICANN Board are expected to send representatives to address any community questions or concerns regarding the Recall Action. There is no other required format or length for the Community Forum session; it is a discussion forum where views can be expressed and questions answered.

If time remains in the Community Forum phase, and the Empowered Community Administration or Petitioning or Supporting Decisional Participant believes one or two additional Community Forum sessions would be beneficial, additional Community Forum sessions can be held.

No Empowered Community decisions may be taken during a Community Forum. Records of the Community Forum and any pre-forum submissions, shall be made publicly available on icann.org.

Phase 4: Board Recall Decision Period

When the Community Forum Period expires, the Decisional Participants decide on the Board Recall Action during the Decision Period, which lasts 21 calendar days from the close of the Community Forum phase, expiring at 11:59 pm, *local time at ICANN's principal office*.

During this period, each Decisional Participant is expected to determine, pursuant to its internal procedures, whether it supports, objects to, or abstains from voting on the Board Recall Action. The Decisional Participant then must notify the Empowered Community Administration of its decision prior to the end of this period. If a Decisional Participant fails to communicate its decision to the Empowered Community Administration, the Decisional Participant is considered to have abstained from the vote.

Phase 5: Decision Notification and Conclusion

Upon the close of the Decision Period, the Empowered Community Administration tallies all decisions communicated by the Decisional Participants to identify if the Board Recall Action is approved according to the Threshold for Support requirements.

The Threshold for Support

- Removal of the Board pursuant to a Board Recall Action requires the support of four or more Decisional Participants and no objection from more than one Decisional Participant.

The Empowered Community Administration has 24 hours from the close of the Decision Period to tally the decisions and provide notice to the ICANN Secretary on whether the Board Recall Action was approved or terminated. The Secretary posts the notice of the Empowered Community's decision on the appropriate icann.org webpage.

Conclusion

If approved, all Directors, except for the Board President, are removed from office, and the vacancies are filled in accordance with [Section 7.12](#) of the Bylaws.