

Enhancing the Effectiveness of ICANN's Multistakeholder Model – Next Steps

ICANN 68 - Prep Week Webinar

15 June 2020



Agenda

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Introduction

- Work began in early 2019 to address a strategic plan objective to improve the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model (MSM) of governance.
- As ICANN continues to evolve, and our environment becomes more complex, our governance must also evolve; without compromising our deeply valued bottom-up, decision-making process.
- In line with that objective, at ICANN63 in Barcelona, the Board started a community-wide dialogue on this topic, revealing several common issues.
- From that point on, discussions with community continued to identify issues hampering ICANN's MSM, which resulted in a draft work plan published as part of the FY 21-25 Operating and Financial Plan.
- Community input on that draft has been incorporated in this document, which:
 - Notes the many streams of work underway to address community-identified work areas.
 - Identifies actionable ways to address gaps in those work areas.
 - Reflects a holistic approach to a project that is not managed in isolation, but as part of a broader set of actions to evolve ICANN's MSM.

Process To Date

Feb 2019	Evolving ICANN's MSM Project initiated by ICANN Board chairman
Mar 2019	High interest session at ICANN64 and conversations with SO/ACs conducted by external facilitator
Apr 2019	Public comment proceeding seeks input on the draft Issues list
Jun 2019	High interest session at ICANN65 and conversations with SO/ACs conducted by external facilitator
Aug 2019	Public comment proceeding on the "Next Steps to Improve the Effectiveness of ICANN's Multistakeholder Model" document
Nov 2019	High interest session at ICANN66 and conversations with SO/ACs conducted by external facilitator
Dec 2019	External facilitator wraps up work, finalizes draft work plan for inclusion in ICANN's Draft FY21-25 Operating and Financial Plan Public Comment
Jan - May 2020	ICANN Board works together with org to update work plan, incorporate comments to-date, work underway, and proposed next steps
Jun 2020	ICANN Board Chair & CEO discuss current project status and next steps with SO/AC Chairs

Summary of Public Comment

- Community agrees ICANN's MSM model needs to evolve, while noting there is substantial work already underway.
 - RrSG: "Work on the issues should be staggered, with each limited for efficiency to a 6 month timeline that includes any proposed approaches or solutions being ready for community discussion at an ICANN Meeting."
 - BC: "It is our strong belief that this project is necessary for ICANN to remain relevant in the face of increasing transnational challenges, and should be assigned a high priority status moving forward, including by those parties that did not engage in this initial work."
 - RySG: "...The RySG observes that most of the issues are currently being addressed via other community efforts, most notably the GNSO's PDP 3.0 and the Third Accountability and Transparency Review (ATRT3). As such, we suggest that these efforts be allowed to run their proper course before the ICANN community takes on the additional work that will be required to fulfill this Work Plan."

Summary of Public Comment, continued

The community's input resulted in a ranking of the six topics in the below priority order, based on comments received:

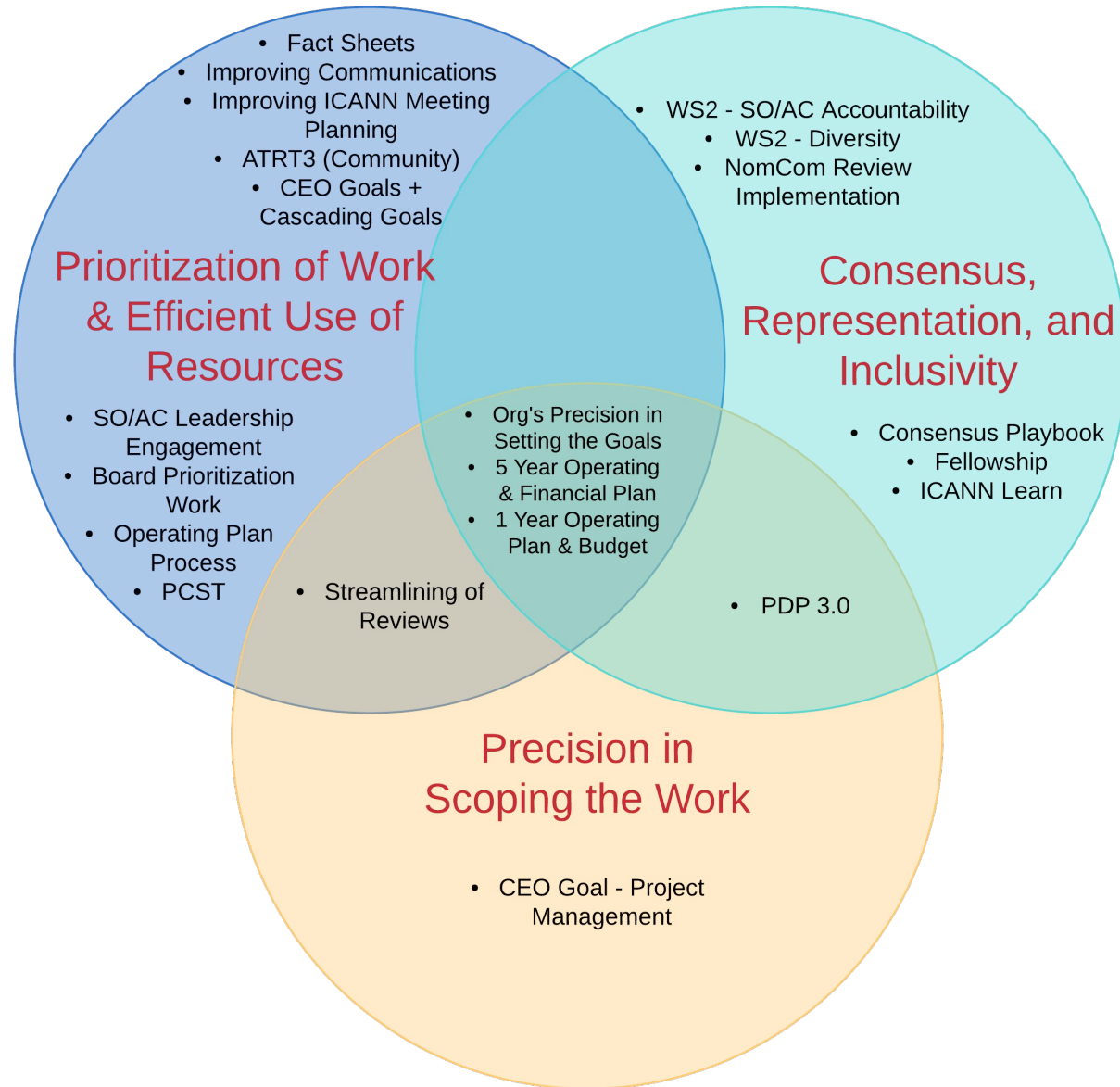
- Prioritization of the work and efficient use of resources
- Precision in scoping the work
- Consensus, representation, and inclusivity
- Complexity of (A) the Tools to Access Information and Data and (B) Content
- Culture, trust, and silos
- Roles and responsibilities

Top 3 Priorities

- Investing in the future is key to ensuring we are able to address the current and future issues in a bottom-up multistakeholder way.
- Neither community, Board, nor org can take on the six topics proposed in the Draft Work Plan while balancing against ICANN's priorities and workload.
- Board is seeking a balance between some extra effort now and more effectiveness in the future and proposes to focus on three priority topics for which the community expressed the most support in its public comments:
 - Prioritization of the work and efficient use of resources
 - Precision in scoping the work
 - Consensus, representation, and inclusivity

Work Currently Underway

- By recognizing the work currently underway in the top three priority issues, we believe the actions proposed to address the gaps involve incremental changes.
- These recommended actions will not generate a lot of work for the community as we are not duplicating efforts, and in many cases will rely on existing resources and planned activities.



Addressing the Gaps

- **Work Area: Prioritization of the work & efficient use of resources:**

Gap in community-developed processes for prioritization and retiring work

These are existing actions with proposed enhancements

- Each community structure creates a yearly priority list and share across groups.
- Schedule periodic touch points with community structures, ICANN org, and Board to collectively decide what work will be prioritized, deprioritized, or retired.

Gap in community alignment on cost management and budget allocations.

These are existing actions with proposed enhancements

- Develop an engagement process for community leaders to exchange information and collaboratively prioritize work within the constraints of the budget.
- Move up engagement in the budget and planning process between community leadership and ICANN org to allow more time to agree on priorities.

Addressing the Gaps

- **Work Area: Precision in scoping the work:**

Gap in maintaining appropriate scope of work

These are existing actions with proposed enhancements

- Fully leverage and implement the Bylaws-mandated, Board-approved Operating Standards that require terms of reference, timelines, work plans, and scope be established at review outset.
- Develop a standard process to enable the SO/ACs to monitor the progress of the review team.
- Review teams to categorize recommendations by high, medium, or low priority.
- MSSSI to brief Review Teams on Operating Procedures.
- Document review team members agreement to the Bylaws mandated Operating Standards.
- Create standard process where review teams share their defined scope of work with SO/AC leadership, and leadership acknowledges.

Addressing the Gaps

- **Work Area: Consensus, representation, and inclusivity:**

Gap in resolving areas of impasse

These are proposed new actions

- Community-wide engagement on the Consensus Playbook to identify where the principles may apply to other community group's work.
- Community-wide engagement on the PDP 3.0 to identify where the principles may apply to other community group's work.

This is an existing action with proposed enhancements

- Increase usage and awareness of ICANN Learn.

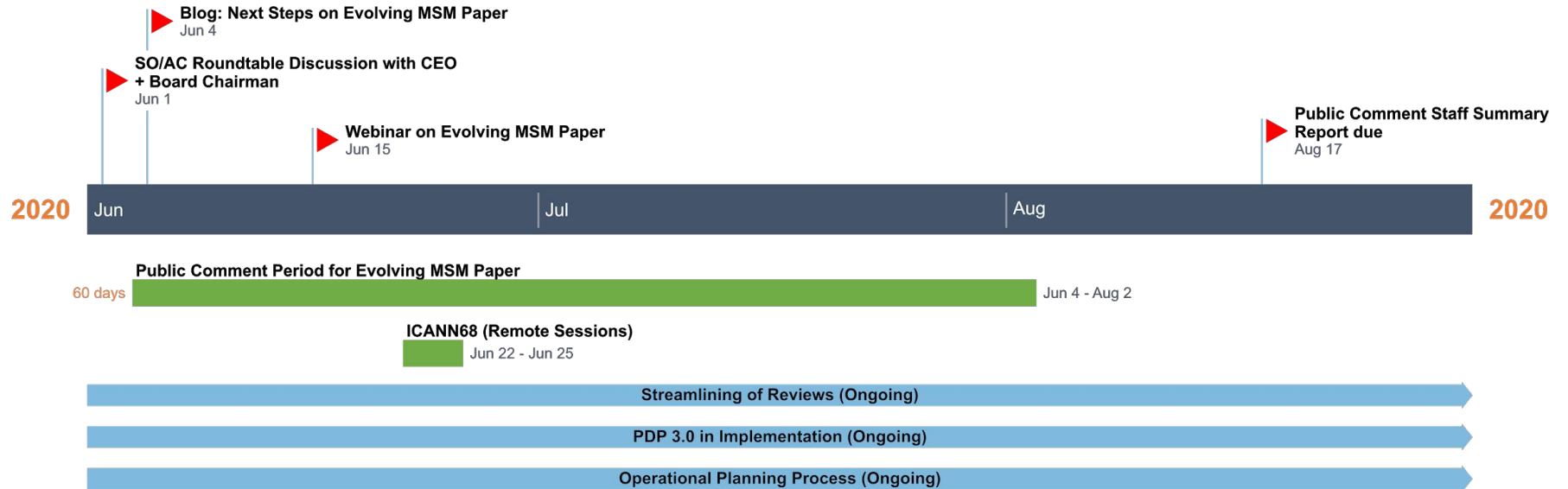
Evaluation Mechanism

- The Board seeks community input on the most appropriate ongoing evaluation method.
- This evaluation may be connected to the evaluation of ICANN's FY21-25 strategic plan
- Any evaluation must consider the holistic impact of the proposed Work Plan, and represent an appropriate cadence for the five-year time frame of the Operating and Financial Plan.
- How should progress be measured?
 - For example, should progress be evaluated based on meeting objectives within a particular time frame or budget?
 - Or should more subjective metrics be used, such as: Is there a sense that consensus is better defined and thus more achievable?
 - Would partial progress on these goals be sufficient to declare the effort a success?

Seeking Input

- **Evaluation:** Do you support the idea of using existing mechanisms to evaluate progress on the three work areas, including the activities already underway and those proposed to address the identified gaps? This evaluation may be conducted in the context of the strategic plan or another, more suitable mechanism identified by the community.
- **The Work Plan:** Are the identified work processes or mechanisms and actions, found in the table(s) for each work area of the Work Plan sufficient to address the gaps that may not be addressed by the work already underway? Similarly, are there gaps and related actions that may address those gaps that should be included in the Work Plan?
- **Remaining work areas:** The three remaining work areas will also benefit from the identified work that is already under way and the output of the Work Plan. While the Board has focused this updated Work Plan on the top three priority areas, it also wants to make clear that any additional activities community participants would like to initiate to help address these work areas are welcomed. Are there any actions that your community group would like to initiate or coordinate? Additionally, are there any community efforts missing from this list?

Conclusion / Next Steps



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