

## SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC INPUT RE: MEETINGS FOR THE NEXT DECADE

(21 May – 30 July 2010)

A public comment process by survey, 60 days in length, related to ICANN International meetings was recently closed. This was the first of a three stage consultation process entitled “Meetings for the Next Decade” which will run through the remainder of calendar year 2010.

Source references: <http://icann.org/en/public-comment/#meetings2010-stage1>

I. Comments provided regarding the Meetings for the Next Decade Survey, both those sent through Public Comment and through participating in the survey, are found below. We will use this information as feedback to the PPC, as well as to create the next set of focus areas for future public consultations.

### 1. International Chamber of Commerce

**Ayesha Hassan, Senior Policy Manager**

**Electronic Business, IT, and Telecommunications**

**Executive in charge of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)**

**Policy**

*ICC Task Force on Internet and Telecoms Infrastructure and Services (ITIS) comments on ICANN ‘Meetings for the next decade’ consultation stage one.*

#### **Meeting location and participation:**

- ☑ *ICC has consistently supported holding at least one if not more of the ICANN meetings in hub cities to facilitate participation and remain sensitive to the time, human and financial resources of all members of the community.*
- ☑ *We recommend that meeting costs can be minimized by using certain regionally diverse hubs on a regular basis which would also make travel faster and more affordable. For example, ICANN could alternate between a meeting in hub cities, and the other meeting(s) could continue to rotate throughout the world.*
- ☑ *Many members cannot participate in more than one ICANN meeting per year given their workloads and resource constraints, and we support mechanisms to involve stakeholders outside the regular three meetings per year.*
- ☑ *Some ICC members who attend only one meeting a year cited location as a determining factor for their participation. They also noted that it is difficult to select which of the three meetings to participate in because there is inadequate information about the agenda and issues to be discussed at an early enough date to make an informed choice.*
- ☑ *Location of the meetings should take into consideration safety and security of the participants; otherwise reduced attendance makes the meeting less useful.*
- ☑ *ICANN should host a meeting once a year where business users can provide targeted input on issues that impact them.*
- ☑ *ICANN may consider reducing the number of annual meetings to two per year in order to facilitate broader participation by a greater number of stakeholders. This would ensure interaction time for participants on a sufficiently frequent basis, which can be supplemented with the use of conference calls and other technology alternatives.*
- ☑ *More regular public meetings by ICANN staff around the world would be productive, though such meetings should not significantly increase future ICANN budgets.*
- ☑ *Meeting venues/facilities that offer adequate meeting rooms for all constituencies and ‘side interactions’ that are essential to increase engagement of all stakeholders should be a priority.*
- ☑ *We believe the most productive ICANN meetings have been those where there is a main venue hotel, attached to the conference facility or very close to it. The informal interaction among members of the community has been increased at those meetings and participants’ can focus on the work at hand rather than logistics and transport issues.*

☒ *ICANN should continue to take into consideration meeting dates for other Internet related organizations and processes and attempt to avoid conflicts and maximize those opportunities where possible to facilitate participation.*

☒ *Host city considerations: meeting venues with an attached or nearby hotel and adequate meeting facilities are key; hub cities that facilitate travel and reduce costs are important as mentioned above. Other considerations include: visas particularly for participants from developing countries, safety and security, and Internet connectivity.*

**Meeting preparation and materials:**

☒ *Finalizing agendas for the meetings with details that help business and other members of the community prioritize their participation at meetings at least 6 weeks before the meetings both affects decisions to come to meetings and is a critical element to obtain travel authorization. Members identified the fact that if there are critical issues being discussed that impact their priorities and business, they can better prioritize participation. Without programme information they cannot make informed choices.*

☒ *Session descriptions should be posted much earlier in advance so participants can review the detailed agenda and consider their participation with the necessary information.*

☒ *Synopsis or information papers could be helpful, and even more importantly meeting documents need to be made available three weeks in advance.*

**Meeting structure and substance:**

☒ *In order to encourage business participation, ICANN meetings should be structured to facilitate interaction with the ICANN Board and senior leadership in a manner that enables a candid exchange of views and ideas.*

☒ *ICANN meetings also serve a valuable purpose in providing a forum for business participants to interact with other constituencies, including government representatives.*

☒ *The structure of ICANN meetings could be improved to facilitate greater opportunities for constructive policy development – taking advantage of the fact that a wide range of stakeholders are present in person. We support a greater focus on interactive sessions with participation by ICANN staff, as opposed to general briefing sessions.*

☒ *Focusing the agenda so that business user policy discussions are concentrated in a few days and not sprinkled throughout the week would facilitate broader business participation.*

## **2. Blacknight Solutions, Hosting & Colocation, Brand Protection**

**Mr Michele Neylon, ICANN Accredited Registrar**

*It's great that ICANN wants feedback, but it's a pity that the methodology is so awkward; I used the online survey yesterday, but it took me several attempts to complete it and even then I wasn't overly happy with it.*

*DomainnameWire sum it up nicely:*

<http://domainnamewire.com/2010/05/24/icann-travel-survey-poll-fail/>

### 3. ICANN Meetings Survey - Poll Results

*As at Poll close: Saturday 31 July 2010 23:59 UTC*

1. Are you responding on behalf of yourself personally, or representing an organisation or group?

**297 voters** participated in the survey:

**212 or 71%** on their own behalf

**85 or 29%** on behalf of others

2.1 How often do you attend ICANN International Meetings?

**273 voters replied:**

**104 or 38%** attend 3 per year most or all years

**47 or 17%** attend 2 times a year

**38 or 14%** attend once a year

**34 or 12%** attend one every so often

**50 or 18%** have only attended once

2.2 How often do you attend Registry/Registrar Regional Meetings?

**70 voters replied:**

**22 or 31%** have attended one

**20 or 29%** attend every so often

**15 or 21%** attend one most years or every year

**13 or 19%** attend more than one most years or every year

3. What affects your decision to attend an ICANN meeting? **250 voters replied:**

Option	Much more likely I'd attend	Somewhat more likely I'd attend	Wouldn't affect my decision either way	Would make me less likely to attend
A. The ICANN Meeting is held either immediately before or after another meeting I'm already attending in the same or a nearby city	<b>56</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>24</b>
B. The ICANN meeting is held alongside a meeting I'm already attending (meaning the two meetings occur at the same time) in the same city and venue	<b>50</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>70</b>
C. The meeting is held in the region I live in	<b>129</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>5</b>
D. The decisions or issues that relate to the content of the meeting will have a material effect on the interest group I'm a part of in a professional sense	<b>139</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Option</i>	<i>Much more likely I'd attend</i>	<i>Somewhat more likely I'd attend</i>	<i>Wouldn't affect my decision either way</i>	<i>Would make me less likely to attend</i>
<i>F. I have support from my employer to attend (financial or otherwise)</i>	<b>148</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>9</b>
<i>G. Travel support from ICANN is available to me for the meeting</i>	<b>130</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>10</b>
<i>H. The amount of time it takes to travel to and from the meeting is less than 36 hours, door to door</i>	<b>35</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>55</b>
<i>I. The amount of time it takes to travel to and from the meeting is less than 24 hours, door to door</i>	<b>43</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>22</b>
<i>J. The amount of time it takes to travel to and from the meeting is less than 12 hours, door to door</i>	<b>92</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>9</b>

#### 4. Other Internet-related meetings you attend

**194** voters replied:

**88 or 45%** attend the Internet Governance Forum

**83 or 43%** attend Regional Internet Governance Forum Mtg within own region

**81 or 42%** attend Regional Top Level Domain Assoc. Mtgs within own region

**60 or 31%** attend Regional Internet Registry Mtgs

**52 or 27%** attend Regional or Int'l Trade Shows for ICT Sector

**50 or 26%** attend Other Regional Internet conferences in own region

**50 or 26%** attend Technical Conferences such as IETF or W3C

**41 or 21%** attend Int'l Mtgs not related to Internet governance such as World Economic Forum

#### 5.1 Considerations in choosing a host city

**246** voters replied:

**591 or 40%** felt that Facilities were most important

**399 or 27%** felt that Convenience of meeting location and cost for both ICANN and attendees most important

**495 or 33%** felt that Safety and Security were most important

#### 5.2 Facilities

**242** voters replied

**556 or 38%** felt that it important to ensure there was space available for informal social interactions around the formal meeting area

**503 or 34%** felt that it important to ensure sufficient mtg space for ad-hoc community member small group mtgs

**400 or 27%** felt that it important to ensure that all formal mtgs were held in one physical location

### 5.3 Convenience and Cost

**244** voters replied:

**593 or 40%** felt that ensuring mtgs are held in countries where getting a visa is easy was most important

**454 or 31%** felt that ensuring there are a range of hotels from very affordable to more luxurious in close proximity to where the meetings are held, so that attendees can walk to all within five to seven minutes at a maximum was important

**428 or 29%** felt that ensuring meetings are held in major air travel hubs to increase flight options and reduce cost was most important

### 5.4 Safety and Security

**231** voters replied:

**524 or 38%** felt that ICANN's security assessments should show that the safety risks to attendees is low

**474 or 34%** felt that ensuring meetings are not held in any location which is listed on the United Nations' five-phase security system was important

**391 or 28%** felt it important to ensure that meetings are held in cities where travel advisories issued by many governments do not show any significant safety concerns for visitors

6. How important are different elements of ICANN meetings to you? **229 voters replied:**

Option	Essential	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not important
A. Ability to progress work on policy issues in working groups that I'm a member of	78	74	46	17	14
B. Ability to learn more about policy or technical issues being dealt with in the community	66	92	55	10	6
C. Attending meetings of the ICANN Body that I'm most closely a part of (such as an advisory committee or supporting organisation, or supporting organisation constituency)	90	64	54	14	7
D. Ability to attend training relevant to my professional life (such as implementing DNSSec or ccNSO's Tech Days)	42	45	62	52	28
E. Ability to interact informally with other community members to reach agreement on policy issues or narrow points of disagreement	89	74	51	14	1
F. Ability to meet and talk with community members who are not a part of the community I'm most closely affiliated with	53	78	76	20	2
G. Ability to be heard by the Board	68	55	63	34	9
H. Ability to be heard by the community at general sessions like the Public Forum or Board Meeting	53	53	66	46	11

7. How effectively do ICANN Meetings fulfill various needs? **217 voters replied:**

<i>Option</i>	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Very good</i>	<i>Good, but needs improvement</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Not relevant to me</i>
<i>A. Progression of work on policy issues in working groups that I'm a member of</i>	<b>30</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>23</b>
<i>B. Opportunities to learn more about policy or technical issues being dealt with in the community</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>
<i>C. Attending meetings of the ICANN Body that I'm most closely a part of (such as an advisory committee or supporting organisation, or supporting organisation constituency)</i>	<b>57</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>
<i>D. Ability to attend training relevant to my professional life (such as implementing DNSSEC or ccNSO Tech Days)</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>62</b>
<i>E. Ability to interact informally with other community members to reach agreement on policy issues or narrow points of disagreement</i>	<b>33</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>F. Ability to meet and talk with community members who are not a part of the community I'm most closely affiliated with</i>	<b>27</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>
<i>G. Ability to be heard by the Board and community at general sessions like the Public Forum or Board Meeting</i>	<b>24</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>17</b>

8.1 When should Basic Session Information – Session Titles and a brief abstract of what the session is, who it is for, why it matters, which taken together give you a good idea of the content, structure, and objectives of the session, as well as the date and the time the session will be held – be provided?

**228 voters replied:**

**79 or 35%** said 30 days in advance

**43 or 19%** said 90 days in advance

**43 or 19%** said 60 days in advance

**41 or 18%** said 45 days in advance

**22 or 10%** said 15 days in advance

8.2 When should complete Session Agendas and accompanying PowerPoint or other presentation materials be available?(assumes that basic session information would also be available)

**223 voters replied:**

**112 or 50%** said 15 days in advance

**72 or 32%** said 30 days in advance

**20 or 9%** said 45 days in advance

**19 or 9%** said 60 days in advance

8.3 When should major or long documents (more than 30 pages excluding summary and annexes) to be considered at the meeting (such as gTLD Applicant Guidebook versions or final drafts of any kind to be approved at the meeting or shortly after it ends) be available?

**226 voters replied:**

**114 or 50%** said 30 days in advance

**74 or 33%** said 45 days in advance

**38 or 17%** said 15 days in advance

8.4 When should Interim (meaning substantive documents not subject to final approval during or shortly after the meeting) or shorter documents (less than 30 pages excluding summary and annexes) to be considered at the meeting be available?

**224 voters replied:**

**113 or 50%** said 15 days in advance

**85 or 38%** said 30 days in advance

**26 or 12%** said 45 days in advance

9. Would you like us to contact you with further information on the Meetings Consultation?

**225 voters replied:**

**192 or 85%** said Yes

**33 or 15%** said No