Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT)
Conference Call - Tuesday, June 6th 2010 – 09:00 UTC
Preliminary Report

RT Selectors and Members
(PDT) Peter Dengate Thrush
(MI) Manal Ismail, Vice Chair
(LS) Lawrence Strickling
(WA) Warren Adelman
(BB) Becky Burr
(FC) Fabio Colasanti
(WC) Willie Currie
(BC) Brian Cute, Chair
(EIA) Erick Iriarte Ahon
(CLO) Cheryl Langdon-Orr
(LL) Louie Lee
(OM) Olivier Muron

Assistants invited by RT Members
(FA) Fiona Alexander
(JM) James Bladel
(FG) Feng Guo

Supporting Staff
(ON) Olof Nordling
(AJ) Alice Jansen

No silent observers

The Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT) undertook the following:

a) Discussion about Budget

In Brussels, the Accountability and Transparency Review Team and ICANN COO and CFO jointly drafted a budget for this review in light of financial implications induced by:

- A contract signature with an independent consultant;

- Conference calls; and

- F2F meetings.

At ICANN's 38 meeting, a portion of the ATRT reached a provisional agreement in favor of cost-saving trips to the United States. Marina Del Rey, Washington and Boston were put forward as potential destinations.

The ATRT resolved to control its expenses as much as possible and to circulate an explanatory statement on its budget decisions.

(BC) is to draft a revised budget with any necessary justification and supporting documents and discuss it with the Board committee on AoC reviews, chaired by (Rita), to be approved by the Board.

b) Discussion about meetings

The ATRT enquired about the status of their F2F meeting in Beijing.

(XZ) will call (BC) within 24 hours for final confirmation of the meeting and accordingly will be sending letters of invitation as soon as possible.

If Beijing August meeting is confirmed, (LL) is to cancel Singapore preparations and if October meeting is fixed either in Washington DC or Boston, (MI) is to cancel Cairo preparations.

(FC) suggested having the ATRT 5th meeting, planned on the margins of ICANN Cartagena meeting, to be held at the end of the ICANN meeting, not before, for the RT to be able to take into consideration feedback received during the week of the ICANN meeting.

c) Discussion about the independent reviewer contract

The initial ATRT timeline prescribes that the contract ought to have be signed by now and research should have started. Given that RT agreed to push its first deadline a few weeks from the end of August, there is still some time for budget figures finalization. Yet the RT agreed to the urgency of having the budget approved in order to sign the contract with Berkman to have them start working.

The RT expressed its desire to include a termination provision in the independent expert contract and to reserve the right to terminate the contract should the preliminary conclusions of the mid-term report be unsatisfactory.

(BB) is to draft the final contract and to submit it to the Review team for approval.

d) Discussion about case studies

On basis of their Brussels exchanges with the community, the ATRT established the following list of case studies:

- Introduction of new gTLDs specifically focused on

  - Expression of interest proposal
  - Implementation Recommendation Team - IRT (ad-hoc body set up to deal with IP issues)
  - Role of GAC
  - Vertical Integration

- .xxx domain application and decision

- DNS-Cert Proposal'

As these case studies are ongoing, the ATRT reiterated:

- its intention to issue recommendations solely on post AoC mechanisms for processes

- Its commitment to not influence the decisional outcome of these live topics.

e) Declaration of interests

Given her involvement in ICM's working group on .xxx, (BB) provided the RT members with an updated declaration of interests. The RT thoroughly discussed its options and first resolved to retain the .xxx case study to abide by the community input received, have (BB) recuse herself from participation in discussions on this topic and publicly reports the withdrawal of (BB) from this particular case study. (BB) then offered to withdraw from her involvement with ICM's working group on .xxx and RT members welcome this step.

The posting of an agreed policy with clearly-defined guidelines was suggested by the Vice-Chair of the RT.

The ATRT decided to draft an announcement that would outline its case studies and work structure.

The ATRT reiterated its commitment to ICANN and encourages that this be reported to the Board of Directors.

f) Decision to have a private and public community link

Per its Brussels statement, the ATRT decided to open a public forum via which community members may provide their input at any point during the review process. In addition to the open channel, the RT resolves to open a private repository for Members.

It was agreed that an additional call is needed to go through agenda items that were not discussed during this call.

(AJ) is to create a doodle to poll on members' availability and preferences.