



13 September 2019

Empowered Community Administration
(ecadmin@icann.org)

Address Supporting Organization
(via Chair, Aftab Siddiqui)
At-Large Advisory Community
(via Chair, Maureen Hilyard)
Country Code Names Supporting Organization
(via Chair, Katrina Sataki)
Generic Names Supporting Organization
(via Chair, Keith Drazek)
Governmental Advisory Committee
(via Chair, Manal Ismail)

RE: Board Notice of Board Approval of Standard Bylaws Amendment re SSAC Leadership Terms

To the Decisional Participants in the Empowered Community and the Empowered Community Administration:

Pursuant to Section 25.1(d) of the ICANN Bylaws (at <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/bylaws-en/-article25>), this serves as notice to the EC Administration and Decisional Participants in the Empowered Community that on 8 September 2019 the ICANN Board approved an amendment to the Standard Bylaws at Article 12, Section 12.2(b)(ii) (regarding SSAC leadership terms), as available [here](#). The Board also approved an amendment to the RSSAC leadership composition, as well as the IANA Naming Function Review Team composition, and you will receive separate notices for each of those.

The Board approved this amendment together with its decision on the RSSAC-related bylaws, and provided the following joint rationale:

The Board is taking this action today at the request of the SSAC and RSSAC and in support of the organizational reviews required under Section 4.4 of the ICANN Bylaws. The Final Report of the Independent Review of SSAC by Analysis Group recommended that term limits be applicable for the leadership of the SSAC, which the Bylaws do not allow at this time. Flexibility in the structure of the RSSAC leadership is proposed as an implementation item in direct response to a recommendation arising out of the organizational review of the RSSAC regarding issues of succession.

These changes were jointly posted for [public comment](#), with two comments received. The ICANN Business Constituency and the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group were each in support of the proposed Bylaws changes. These comments were reflected in a [staff report](#).

Today's action does not pose any identified fiscal impact, nor does it impact the security, stability or resiliency of the Internet's DNS. This action serves ICANN's mission in ensuring the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems through supporting the continued evolution of the governance of these two key advisory committees. In addition, this action supports the accountability mandates of organizational review process, as each of the requested changes arise out of that process. It is in the public interest as following the Bylaws-mandated amendment process supports ICANN's multistakeholder community and allows ICANN to remain accountable to its Bylaws-mandated mechanisms.

Within the Standard Bylaws Amendment Process, the Empowered Community now has the opportunity to consider, within 30 days of this Board Notice, whether it will deliver a Rejection Action Petition Notice. The Empowered Community Rejection Action Process is set out at Annex D, Section 2 of the ICANN Bylaws. The timeline for the Empowered Community's exercise of this Rejection Action Process will be tracked, including the associated deadlines, at <https://www.icann.org/ec>.

Best Regards,



John O. Jeffrey
General Counsel & Secretary
ICANN

cc: Cherine Chalaby, Chair, Board of Directors, ICANN
Goran Marby, President and CEO, ICANN