

To: Akriti Bopanna on behalf of the Centre for Internet & Society

Date: 4 August 2019

Re: Request No. 20190705-1

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This is in response to your request for documentary information (Request), which was submitted on 5 July 2019 through the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers' (ICANN organization or ICANN org) Documentary Information Disclosure Policy (DIDP) on behalf of the Centre for Internet & Society (CIS). For reference, a copy of your Request is attached to the email forwarding this Response.

### **Items Requested**

Your Request seeks the disclosure of documentary information supporting ICANN org's policy development budget. Specifically, you seek "a detailed breakdown for the budgets for every Advisory Council as well as Supporting Organizations for the previous fiscal year."

### **Response**

As part of its commitment to accountability and transparency, ICANN org makes available a comprehensive set of financial materials on its website as a matter of course. The following financial information is available on the financials webpage (<https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/financials-en>) by year: quarterly unaudited financials, audited annual financial statements, annual report of expense reimbursement and other payments to the ICANN Board, tax filings, the contributions report from country code top-level domains, annual schedule of revenue by source, the adopted Operating Plan and Budget and supporting documents, the Five-Year Operating Plan.

As your Request was submitted in FY20, ICANN org interpreted the request for documentary information "for the previous fiscal year" to mean FY19. Among other things, the following relevant information for FY19 is published on the financials page:

- [FY19 Q1 Unaudited Financials](#);
- [FY19 Q2 Unaudited Financials](#);
- [FY19 Q3 Unaudited Financials](#)
- [FY19 Budget Introduction & Highlights](#);
- [FY19 Total ICANN Budget](#);
- [FY19 Key Projects & Activities](#);
- [FY19 Operating Plan](#);
- [FY19 Five-Year Operating Plan Update](#); and
- [FY19 Excel Spreadsheet by Portfolio and by Projects](#).

The information responsive to your Request is available in the published documents relating to the FY19 Operating Plan and Budget. (See [FY19 Budget Introduction & Highlights](#); [FY19 Total ICANN Budget](#); [FY19 Key Projects & Activities](#); [FY19 Operating Plan](#); [FY19 Five-Year Operating Plan Update](#); and [FY19 Excel Spreadsheet by Portfolio and by Projects](#).) These documents include the following detailed information:

- Highlights of ICANN Operations, including a summary of changes from the Draft FY19 Operating Plan and Budget.
- An overview of ICANN's FY19 Budget.
- A detailed description of the FY19 Operating Plan.
- Detailed descriptions of the portfolios of activities supporting the goals and objectives described in the ICANN Strategic Plan for the Fiscal Years of 2016 to 2020, and the updated Five-Year Operating Plan.
- Detailed lists of projects for each portfolio and project-level budgeted costs.

The policy development budget is a part of Strategic Goal 1.3: Evolve Policy Development and Governance Processes, Structures and Meetings to be More Accountable, Inclusive, Efficient, Effective and Responsive. (See [FY19 Five-Year Operating Plan Update](#).) The details of Strategic Goal 1.3, including the dependencies are set forth on pages 13 through 16 of the [FY19 Five-Year Operating Plan Update](#). The details of the budget for policy development are set forth in the [FY19 Total ICANN Budget](#), [FY19 Excel Spreadsheet by Portfolio and by Projects](#), [FY19 Key Projects & Activities](#), and [FY19 Operating Plan](#) under Strategic Goal 1.3. As set forth in the [FY19 Key Projects & Activities](#), the policy development budget of US\$6.2 million is devoted to support the community in several ways:

- Facilitation and secretariat support for three Supporting Organizations, four Advisory Committees, and Stakeholder Groups. This includes support services for:
  - Policy and advice development activities;
  - Some cross-community working groups; and
  - Other community committees.
- Creating and communicating regular updates on the community's work in developing policies and advice.
- Coordinating constituency travel services for some community members to enable their participation in ICANN Public Meetings.
- Support for community participation in organizational and specific reviews and assistance in the implementation of review recommendations (for more information about reviews, see section 4.4 of this document).

(See [FY19 Key Projects & Activities](#), pg. 7.). As detailed in the [FY19 Operating Plan](#) and [FY19 Excel Spreadsheet by Portfolio and by Projects](#), ICANN org's global policy development support team, currently consists of 33 facilitation and secretariat professionals, located in nine countries, to provide support to three Supporting Organizations (SOs) and four Advisory Committees (ACs). Most members of the policy development support team are assigned to facilitate policy/advice development activities for a SO or AC. The [FY19 Excel Spreadsheet by Portfolio and by Projects](#) provides a detailed breakdown of the budget allocation by project and the SO and/or AC that each project supports (see [FY19 Excel Spreadsheet by Portfolio and by Projects](#) at Goal 1.3). The [FY19 Operating Plan](#) contains a list of activities that the ICANN policy development support team provides by SO and AC (see [FY19 Operating Plan](#) at pgs. 16-18). The [FY19 Operating Plan](#) also provides a detailed breakdown of FY19 constituent travel budget by SO and AC (see *id.* at pgs. 18-22).

Aside from the already published documents referenced above, ICANN org does not maintain, in the normal course of business, a further breakdown of Policy development support expenses by individual SO or AC.

The DIDP exemplifies ICANN org's Commitments and Core Values supporting transparency and accountability by setting forth a procedure through which existing documents concerning ICANN org's operations and within ICANN org's possession, custody, or control that are not already publicly available are made available unless there is a compelling reason for confidentiality. (See [DIDP](#)). Neither the DIDP nor ICANN's Commitments and Core Values supporting transparency and accountability obligates ICANN org to create or compile reports and/or summaries that currently do not exist. However, ICANN org acknowledges the value in your Request and that such information may be of interest to others within the ICANN community. ICANN org will therefore continue to assess the ways in which it can enhance its reporting mechanisms by improving upon the levels of reporting where feasible.

## **About DIDP**

ICANN org's DIDP is limited to requests for documentary information already in existence within ICANN org that is not publicly available. In addition, the DIDP sets forth Defined Conditions of Nondisclosure. To review a copy of the DIDP, please see <http://www.icann.org/en/about/transparency/didp>. ICANN org makes every effort to be as responsive as possible to the entirety of your Request. As part of its accountability and transparency commitments, ICANN org continually strives to provide as much information to the community as is reasonable. We hope this information is helpful. If you have any further inquiries, please forward them to [didp@icann.org](mailto:didp@icann.org).