Telephone Conference on ICANN’s Operational Plan with Kevin Wilson  
15 November 2010

Attendees:
Byron Holland, .ca  
Roelof Meijer, .nl  
Paulos Nyirenda, .mw  
Kathryn Reynolds, .ca  
Giovanni Seppia, .eu  
Peter Van Roste, CENTR

Staff:
Akram Atallah  
Bart Boswinkel  
Janice Douma-Lange  
Juan Ojeda  
David Olive  
Kurt Pritz  
Gabriella Schittek  
Kevin Wilson

Apologies:
Lesley Cowley, .uk  
Fahd Batayneh, .jo  
Sabine Dolderer, .de  
Atsushi Endo, .jp  
Debbie Monahan, .nz  
Mathieu Weill, .fr

Background
• Akram Atallah and Kevin Wilson explained that the reason for the call was to explain the changed process and timeline to the Operating Plan & Budget, to clarify what the current support services to the ccNSO are and to seek input from the ccNSO on this.

Change in Process & Timeline of Operating Plan & Budget:
• The main change in the process of the Operating Plan & Budget is that the completion will be tied to the first ICANN meeting each year. Therefore, the budget process will start earlier than in previous years. In this case, a finalised framework is expected to be provided by the San Francisco meeting (see slides, page 5-6 for changes + time line).
It was noted that there would be an overlap in having the Operating Plan and Budget running together with the Strategic Plan and it was asked whether there were no concerns that this might reverse the order of the process.

It was acknowledged that there would be an overlap, but that this would be a trade-off, which would have to be taken into account.

**Current Support Services & Improved Input from Community:**

- It was explained that it is a desire to get the SO/ACs more actively and directly involved in the input process of the Operating & Budget Plan. Whilst input could only be delivered through the public comment forum in the past, community leaders and relevant working groups (such as the SOP Working Group) will now be invited to direct communication with ICANN staff and board members.

- Also, it would be clarified what services are provided to the SO/ACs and input will be sought whether the services are appropriate. The service costs would be estimated, analysed and aligned with the Strategic Plan. The public would then have the opportunity to provide comments to those plans.

It was asked whether there would be any process to show how comments and feedback had been weighted and approved or rejected.

It was clarified that there will be an effort starting from this year, to show how each comment had been read and processed. The community would also get an opportunity to provide feedback on the comments received.

A list of services provided to the ccNSO was presented (see slides, page 8). It was clarified that these were only the basic services provided to the ccNSO, not the ccTLD community.

**Way Forward**

- In order to receive input, the process and services will be presented at the SO/AC meetings in Cartagena. An open forum meeting will also be arranged. Furthermore, Kevin Wilson, Akram Atallah and Jose Ojenda will visit the SOP Working Group meeting. A framework discussion will then be held at the San Francisco meeting in March 2011, where further comments can be submitted. The Draft Operating Plan will be published on the 17 May 2011 and is expected to be submitted to the Board for approval in June 2011.

- A template has also been developed to facilitate the community in submitting input on additional services they would like to receive from ICANN. The template will ask for Activity/Description/Strategic Benefit of the request.

- Purpose is to provide what we think are basic services & process. Not set in stone, allow community feedback back into the process. Do we land right, is the process ok, shall we tweak it? In Cartagena we will present a fully subscribed programme.
• Cartagena: will be requested to be invited to each SO/AC meeting to walk through, make sure to obtain consensus on process. Then open forum on Wednesday walk through that, consider that done, basic services.

• Will have Strategic/Operational WG meeting on Sunday.

• Beginning of template – sample of services request.
  • Activity:
  • Description:
  • Strategic Benefit:

  • Development timeline: calls with ac/so leadership, meeting with ac.so meetings + public forum in cartagena. Framework discussion in SF in march, continue taking comments, suggestions, feedback for 17 may posted draft. Then off & running for final submittal in June.

• Byron: clear.

• Corrections, then Janice will send slides.

• Roelof: when will be draft of changed strategic plan?
  • Byron: number of outstanding actions.
  • Kurt: Will send out during the day. The original slides you got. Red-line of slides today.

• Priorities – provide input, important that listen, want to demostrate. First thing – clarify what services we provide to so/ac, then allow input on whether these services are appropriate, help prioritise. Services can be estimated & analysed, cost of these, how they align with strat plan. Then opportunity public provide comments to those plans, then final submit to board for approval.

• Byron: comments & feedback: one challenges are comments & feedback, go into hopper where unclear where comment & feedback. Process on how comments & feedback are weighed and approved or rejected?

• Kevin: made first effort this year, can do lot better. Showed each comment and made sure read & processed. This year are to elaborate on that, take to further step to all making comments that you can provide feedback. Also making plans for specific suggestions, put those comments & priorities them. Als to get comments on feedback. Process starts earlier to benefit to get feedback back on comments before adoption of budget.

• Support services currently provided for ccNSO community: straw man to get feedback.

• David: ccNSO Secretariat services, travel support etc. tel conferences, tech dept, legal dept.

• Byron: Basic services?
• Akram: Yes, basic. To show what we are doing today. Want to discuss what other needs you have. Things that you can include, public comment process.

• Bart: this is services provided to the ccNSO, not the broader ccTLD community.

• Kevin: shared services, ccnso has interest what happens on board, but did not include this in slide.

• Akram: anything that we are not providing that are needed? What are the needs? Is there anything not needed? Not adequate? Feedback to tweak this for next year.

• Kevin: purpose is to provide what we think are basic services & process. Not set in stone, allow community feedback back into the process. Do we land right, is the process ok, shall we tweak it? In Cartagena we will present a fully subscribed programme.

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Changes: 1) has been 6 months process, now believe completion will be tied to first icann meeting. Strategic plan, which essentially is an update to 3 year plan will be done at that meeting. Not at budget kick-off. 2) so/ac commented after 17 through public comment forum - new way, more effective approach now allowing so/ac leadership to communicate with icann staff/board on development process, starting now, in future
years perhaps even earlier. Comments so/acs no possibility to allow inout support level. Process in which so/ac leadership can provide priorities. Those are the changes.

Akram: reason for having call: wanted to start process of doing budget earlier; goal to finalize by SF meeting, so idea is to get the work started look at what we provide you in services and allow a process to get into finalized framework before SF meeting. How we will do it in future, process will also be discussed today.

Kevin: slides will be sent to group. Purpose is to alter process, so/ac commitment active involvement. Want to clarify process and development of that process. Also, clarify current support services, confusion on what icann does for so/ac. + budget timeline and how it is extended to the Cartagena meeting. Provide opportunity for community leaders to provide leadership & guidance into actual budget development process. Left plenty of time to provide input into process itself.

Started operating plan & budget at feb meeting, draft 17 may by bylaws, finally presented june meeting. Opportunity to feedback better & better, but got better in that process. Changes: 1) has been 6 months process, now believe completion will be tied to first icann meeting. Strategic plan, which essentially is an update to 3 year plan will be done at that meeting. Not at budget kick-off. 2) so/ac commented after 17 through public comment forum - new way, more effective approach now allowing so/ac leadership to communicate with icann staff/board on development process, starting now, in future years perhaps even earlier. Comments so/acs no possibility to allow inout support level. Process in which so/ac leadership can provide priorities. Those are the changes.

Byron: in changing the process, strikes me that budget will be run concurrently. There will be overlap. Any concerns strat plan about cart before the horse?

Kevin: yes, overlap. Always trade-off.

Akram: Tying finishing of process to meetings that we have. If look at Cartagena meeting & SF meeting, the framework is what we’re starting right now, ahead of Cartagena where we should finish strategic plan. Purpose of slide is to show Cartagena & meetings are not always the same time frame. Therefore we can’t tie process to meetings, so there will be overlap, because process will take certain amount of time. Will do a lot of work that can be done before strategic plan can be finalized.

Kevin: echo and underline that: thought is that strat plan is 3 year plan that will get updated each year, many things you don’t know until finalized. Lot of activities can be done earlier until strat plan can be adopted. Framework before Cartagena meeting – development of that, leadership involved activities before framework posted. Posted by SF meeting. Budget internally, before SF meeting so that they will be in time for May meeting. Gives staff time to synthesize.

SO/AC more active, direct involvement. Priorities – provide input, important that listen, want to demonstrate. First thing – clarify what services we provide to so/ac, then allow input on whether these services are appropriate, help prioritise. Services can be
estimated & analysed, cost of these, how they align with strat plan. Then opportunity public provide comments to those plans, then final submit to board for approval.

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