

Timing and Potential Deferral of ATRT4 and Upcoming Engagement with the ICANN Community

Date: 22 March 2024

To: Theresa Swinehart, Senior Vice President, Global Domains & Strategy

Dear Theresa,

Thank you for reaching out to the ccNSO to seek our input on the timing of the Fourth Accountability and Transparency Review (ATR4) and whether there is a need for its deferral for a limited time.

In our view ATR4 should be deferred for the following reasons:

- It is our understanding that among other work items ATR2 and ATR3 looked at the evaluation of the implementation of Board adopted ATR Recommendations. We assume that ATR4 will be tasked to undertake a similar evaluation of implementation of ATR3 Recommendations. Therefore launching a review knowing that part of the ATR3 Recommendations have not yet been implemented, is premature.
- Related, the community is now preparing and focusing on the launch of the Pilot Holistic Review, which was recommended by ATR3. It is our understanding that this review in conjunction with the Continuous Improvement program of the SOs and ACs was suggested by ATR3 to replace the ATR and organizational reviews. Therefore launching ATR4 before the Pilot Holistic Review is launched, would undermine one of the goals of the Pilot Holistic Review.
- We believe that running three (3) cross community efforts in parallel (ATR4, Pilot Holistic Review and developing and implementing the Continuous Improvement Program) would create capacity issues, not only in terms of finding adequate volunteers, but also in terms of overall workload for the ccNSO and possibly other SOs and ACs as they will have to monitor progress, provide input and respond to suggestions.

Finally, we want to suggest that before the Board revisits its decision of the deferral of the organizational reviews (we understand that this is scheduled in the first half of 2025) the SOs and ACs should be consulted on the future needs for these reviews.

Kind regards,

Alejandra Reynoso

Chair of the ccNSO Council