

On behalf the gTLD Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) and Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG), we are writing to seek support in ICANN's FY18 Budget for ten (10) funded travel to the next GDD Summit; 5 for the RySG and 5 for the RrSG. As previously noted, we thought travel support was included in GDD's budget for the annual contracted party Summit, and did not appreciate that this request needed to be part of the special budget request process (deadline was 15 February 2017). While the GDD team has made some limited resources available for this year's Summit in Madrid (9-11 May 2017), we will need more support for the 2018 Summit – especially given the pressure to hold it in the Asia Pacific region (or at least not in Europe again). Given that this is the major “engagement” between contracted parties and ICANN org each year, we earnestly request these travel slots. Likewise, a lack of support necessarily means that members from traditionally under-represented regions – in particular Asia Pacific – won't be able to attend the 2018 Summit.

Best regards,

Paul Diaz  
Chair, RySG

Graeme Bunton  
Chair, RrSG