The deadline for FY21 Budget consideration is **31 January 2020.** All questions and completed forms should be sent to **planning@icann.org**.

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| REQUEST INFORMATION | | |
| Title of Proposed Activity |  |  |
| GNSO Council Strategic Planning Session |  |  |
| Community Requestor Name | Chair | |
| GNSO | Keith Drazek | |
| ICANN Staff Community Liaison |  | |
| Steve Chan |  | |

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| request description |
| *1. Activity:* Please describe your proposed activity in detail |
| As part of the FY18 ABR process, the GNSO Council was granted funding to organize for the first time a 3 day face-to-face planning session in January 2018. As required, a written report was filed, which demonstrated that surveyed Councilors believed that the meeting achieved or exceeded the objectives set out, as well as enabled the Council to have focused and dedicated discussions that significantly aided its planning for FY19. Due to the success of the first Strategic Planning Session, a request was made and granted for a similar session in FY19 and FY20, though due to budget constraints, only two days were granted. The Strategic Planning Session will take place at the end of January, close to the deadline for submission of FY21 ABRs. From the attached agenda, the reviewers of this request can see that a significant amount of planning has gone into this meeting. The evaluation of the meeting by attendees is already available (see – [add link]) – the feedback received demonstrates that this meeting again achieved or exceeded the objectives set out and enabled the GNSO Council to better plan and prepare for 2020. As such, the GNSO Council would like to request the continuation of this pilot for FY21, that would allow the GNSO Council to organize a fourth Strategic Planning Session in early 2021. As evidence of the effectiveness of the Strategic Planning Session, the GNSO Council would like to emphasize the GNSO PDP 3.0 effort, which originated from the Strategic Planning Session in 2018. This effort, nearing the completion of its implementation, will not only aid the GNSO Council in its role as manager of gTLD PDPs, but it will also benefit ICANN’s Strategic Objectives and Goals (e.g., improving multistakeholder governance, decision-making, and effectiveness).  As noted in previous requests, the objective of this session is to develop a work plan for the year ahead and beyond, factoring in the existing workload, available budget and other resources, and aligning the GNSO’s work with ICANN’s FY21-25 Strategic Plan. Although the GNSO Council meets face-to-face at ICANN meetings, there is never sufficient time to focus on long term strategic planning. The GNSO Council Development Session that is organized immediately following the ICANN AGM is specifically designed to introduce and integrate new GNSO Council members and as such is not suitable to conduct this type of discussion. Note that in light of the FY19 and FY20 request being pared down from three days to two, the GNSO Council Development Session from the 2019 AGM was leveraged to ensure that the Strategic Planning Session was of sufficient duration (i.e., a total of three days again). However, the GNSO Council believes 3 days is the proper amount of time and would prefer that specific allocation for the Strategic Planning Session rather than having to leverage a separate effort. |
| *2. Type of Activity*: e.g. Outreach - Education/training - Travel support - Research/Study - Meetings - Other |
| Strategic Planning Session - Full travel support (i.e., airfare, hotel), meeting support (meeting room, AV facilities, catering) for 3 days for the GNSO Council (21 members + GNSO Liaison to the GAC), a community facilitator, and support staff. |
| *3. Proposed Timeline/Schedule:* e.g.one time activity, recurring activity |
| Continuation of trial as an annual pilot with the intention that this become a recurring activity, given the indispensable nature of the activity. |

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| request objectives |
| 1. *Strategic Alignment.* Which area of ICANN’s Strategic Plan does this request support? |
| This request strategically aligns with:  Strategic Objective: Improve the effectiveness of ICANN’s multistakeholder model of governance.  Strategic Goal: Strengthen ICANN’s bottom-up multistakeholder decision-making process and ensure that work gets done and policies are developed in an effective and timely manner.  Strategic Goal: Support and grow active, informed, and effective stakeholder participation. |
| 2. *Demographics.* What audience(s), in which geographies, does your request target? |
| The target audience is the GNSO Council |
| 3. *Deliverables.* What are the desired outcomes of your proposed activity? |
| * GNSO Council strategic plan * Agreement and understanding of the priorities for the GNSO Council for the year ahead (i.e., agreement on a high-level work plan) |
| 4. *Metrics.* What measurements will you use to determine whether your activity achieves its desired outcomes? |
| * Assess impact of strategic plan on Council’s ability to manage workload and prioritize its activities accordingly * Measure implementation of strategic plan against objectives set (assumption is that metrics would be further defined as part of the strategic plan development) * Councilors agree via survey results that they have increased their GNSO knowledge base as a result of attending and participating. |

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| Resource Planning – incremental to accommodate this request |
| Staff Support Needed (not including subject matter expertise): |
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| Subject Matter Expert Support: |
| Facilitator (e.g., outgoing or past Council Chair/leadership) |
| Technology Support: (telephone, Adobe Connect, web streaming, etc.) |
| Telephone, AC, internet, AV facilities |
| Language Services Support: |
| Not applicable |
| Other: |
| Meeting room, catering |
| Travel Support: |
| Full travel support (i.e., airfare and hotel) for three days for the GNSO Council (21 members + GNSO Liaison to the GAC), community facilitator, and support staff |
| Potential/planned Sponsorship Contribution: |
| Not applicable |