

Preliminary inventory of existing accountability mechanisms for SO/ACs

As part of the work of Working Party 3 of the CCWG-Accountability, the matter of SO/ACs accountability was discussed. A first review of existing ICANN documentation shows that there is almost no provisions that oblige SO/ACs to be held accountable to their constituents or the larger internet community with regards to their actions, decisions or advice.

A preliminary inventory of existing accountability mechanisms shows that documents reviewed include the following mechanisms:

Affirmation of commitments.-

The AoC includes some key commitments that while oriented to ICANN as an organization, they should also be seen as applicable to the SO/ACs that form the wider ICANN organizational structure as defined in its bylaws.

The identified mechanisms or criteria by which SO/ACs should conduct their work in relation to the DNS are:

- a) AoC paragraph 3.
- b) AoC paragraph 9.

ATRT

No direct recommendations with regards to SO/AC transparency or accountability have been made by the ATRT.

Bylaws

ICANN bylaws state that each SO/AC shall establish its own charter and procedural documents. Further research needs to be done at SO/AC level to verify existing accountability mechanisms put in place for each SO/AC.

It is also important to review whether SO/ACs should be added to specific sections in the bylaws as subject to provisions applicable to ICANN as a corporation. For example, it should be reviewed and discussed if Core Values should be applicable not only to the corporation's actions but also to the SO/ACs activities.