

Dear Brian, Wolfgang, Stephane, Tatiana, Michael, Adetola, and Erica,

I write on behalf of the GNSO Council leadership team to update you, as the GNSO's nominated ATRT3 members, on the current status of ATRT3.

We are mindful of the fact that some time has passed since the 20 September 2017 GNSO Council meeting at which your respective nominations were unanimously supported (<https://gns0.icann.org/en/council/resolutions#201709>). ICANN org was notified by email soon thereafter, on 26 September 2017. As you may be aware, it is the responsibility of the SO/AC Chairs to agree the full slate of the Review Team.

The SO/AC Chairs briefly discussed ATRT3 on Friday, 27 October 2017, prior to the start of ICANN60. At that point, the ALAC, GNSO and RSSAC representatives had been endorsed, but other SO/ACs had not yet endorsed their candidates. As a result, the SO/AC Chairs considered it premature to discuss and approve the slate for ATRT3. In addition, the SO/AC Chairs also felt that it would be prudent to better understand the SSR2 situation, in light of the Board's intervention in pausing SSR2-RT at the start of ICANN60, before ATRT3 commences its work. The SSR2 effort remains paused at this time as the SO/AC Chairs cooperate to develop a process for re-starting that work.

The GNSO Council will be discussing SSR2 in its upcoming meeting next week on 30 January. A draft letter to SO/AC leaders will be discussed providing Council input on SSR2's pause and suggested next steps. We will forward that letter to you once it is finalised and approved so that you are informed of Council's position. Also on the agenda next week is GNSO Council comments to the draft Operating Standards on ICANN Specific Reviews, which we hope could inform efforts such as ATRT3.

We anticipate that SSR2 and processing the public comments on the draft Operating Standards will cause further delays to the start of ATRT3, and realise that this may be a significant inconvenience for or imposition on some of you. We very much appreciate your willingness to represent the GNSO in this important review, but at the same time we understand if the delay changes your availability to serve on ATRT3. If you do have concerns about remaining on, we would be grateful to hear from you so that we can make appropriate arrangements to be ready with our full slate of representatives once the time comes.

We will be in touch again soon after next week's GNSO Council meeting to provide you with Council's comments on SSR2 and ICANN Specific Reviews.

With best wishes,

Heather Forrest, GNSO Council Chair

Donna Austin, GNSO Council Vice Chair

Rafik Dammak, GNSO Council Vice Chair