

Update from Thomas Rickert

“You see all the [decisive dates](#) in front of you in the remote participation room. We have slightly delayed the publication of the report because we needed to apply some finishing touches to the report. The good news is that we seem to have resolved all issues. We’re now doing a feedback loop for our group to look at the report and let us know if there are any remaining concerns.

The minority statements might be important for your discussion as well. As you know, members representing chartering organizations on our group are entitled to submit minority statements, which will be included in the final report. We already have received three of those minority statements. So you can see that with what we’ve produced now we have not succeeded in making everyone happy on each and every aspect of our report.

But hopefully we’ve managed to make everyone equally unhappy. I guess that’s sort of the nature of the beast when it comes to such complex matters. But in your endeavor to seek community consensus there are always some who do not like each and every aspect of the recommendation.

So we are now planning to publish the report and submit it to the chartering organizations tomorrow. We do know from the transition facilitation calls that we regularly have with community leaders and the ICANN Board and staff, that the board has foreseen to review our final report if it is adopted soon enough during its meeting in Marrakesh.

And the idea is for the Board to pass on, you know, to adopt the report, you know, not technically adopting because it’s not for the Board to adopt the report, but they need to pass it on to NTIA after they have met to see whether there are any global public interest concerns with our report. So I guess the time pressure now is stemming from the fact that we need to make sure that we sequence all the actions by the chartering organizations and the board so that our final report and the other components of the proposal can be shipped to NTIA on March 10, which is the Thursday of the Marrakesh meeting.

We do know that the chartering organizations have put an awful lot of work into reviewing our previous work results. And we are very thankful for the continuous dedication of the whole community and the chartering organizations in particular. And as you will remember, we have had several discussions with this group to

hear what the concerns from chartering organizations were and to ideally remove all the concerns there were with our final report.

We think we've succeeded in doing so. We have tested the waters with members establishing the link between the chartering organizations and the CCWG. And we've asked them, for example, with respect to the issues surrounding what we call the GAC 'Carve-out', we've asked them whether they would be happy to go to the chartering organizations and ask them to not object against the recommendation. And there was no pushback on that.

So we're quite sure that the CCWG is ready to sign off on our recommendations. Maybe not each and every one of them but we think that there is sufficient momentum, sufficient support for the recommendations so that we can get them approved by the chartering organizations.

One thing that I think is particularly important for the chartering organizations and maybe especially for the GNSO is the date in later this February the 25th, where we are going to get feedback - formal feedback from the CWG. You will remember that the CWG report was shipped to the chartering organizations and chartering organizations have made their approval of the CWG recommendations conditional to the Accountability group delivering on certain aspects of accountability that would feed into the CWG report.

So far, and as you know we are regularly liaising with the CWG leadership. We have no indication whatsoever that we would meet CWG requirements. But you will get that with an official sign-off letter on the 25th. And after that we think that there is green light for the chartering organizations and particularly the GNSO, which I represent, to sign off on our recommendations.

So ideally we would get the chartering organizations' approval earlier than March 9. We think that our group would appreciate getting some reassurance that there are no last minute surprises. We are sure that the Board would appreciate some wiggle room in order to get prepared for the handover of the 10th. But the most important point, and this is why you find the 9th of March in this timeline, is that everything is going to be ready in time for the Board consideration so that the Board can sign off on the 10th of March.

I think I should pause here. If councilors or yourselves do have any questions I'm available."

