



International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization

ICC's task force on Internet and Telecoms Infrastructure and Services (ITIS) comments on the ATRT's final recommendations

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and its members from across sectors and geographies appreciate the substantive efforts of the AoC Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT) and welcome the team's final recommendations. The ATRT's final recommendations document reflects the comments and discussions which took place before and at the ICANN meeting in Cartagena.

ICC is pleased to see the progress made to integrate specific timelines for actions and implementation of the recommendations.

ICC continues to encourage careful consideration of the recommendations by the Board and ICANN leadership and urges prompt movement towards implementation particularly of those recommendations which the ATRT has identified as cases where ICANN should have already taken action. The ATRT recommendation that such priority items should have a start or completion date prior to June 2011 is a productive approach.

In particular, ICC agrees that recommendations 15-17 related to the public input and policy development processes should be implemented as soon as possible, but no later than June 2011. These process improvements not only will help to increase public confidence in ICANN's decision-making, but also will help prioritize ICANN's activities and facilitate business participation.

We also support the ATRT request that the Board provide a status report on all the recommendations at the March 2011 ICANN meeting in San Francisco.

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The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

ICC is the world business organization, a representative body that speaks with authority on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world.

The fundamental mission of ICC is to promote trade and investment across frontiers and help business corporations meet the challenges and opportunities of globalization. Its conviction that trade is a powerful force for peace and prosperity dates from the organization's origins early in the last century. The small group of far-sighted business leaders who founded ICC called themselves "the merchants of peace".

ICC has three main activities: rules-setting, dispute resolution and policy. Because its member companies and associations are themselves engaged in international business, ICC has unrivalled authority in making rules that govern the conduct of business across borders. Although these rules are voluntary, they are observed in countless thousands of transactions every day and have become part of the fabric of international trade.

ICC also provides essential services, foremost among them the ICC International Court of Arbitration, the world's leading arbitral institution. Another service is the World Chambers Federation, ICC's worldwide network of chambers of commerce, fostering interaction and exchange of chamber best practice.

Business leaders and experts drawn from the ICC membership establish the business stance on broad issues of trade and investment policy as well as on vital technical and sectoral subjects. These include financial services, information technologies, telecommunications, marketing ethics, the environment, transportation, competition law and intellectual property, among others.

ICC enjoys a close working relationship with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, including the World Trade Organization and the G8.

ICC was founded in 1919. Today it groups hundreds of thousands of member companies and associations from over 120 countries. National committees work with their members to address the concerns of business in their countries and convey to their governments the business views formulated by ICC.

ICC Commission on E-Business, IT and Telecoms (EBITT)

Business leaders and experts drawn from the ICC membership establish the key business positions, policies and practices on e-business, information technologies and telecommunications through the EBITT Commission.

With members who are users and providers of information technology and electronic services from both developed and developing countries, ICC provides the ideal platform to develop global voluntary rules and best practices for these areas. Dedicated to the expansion of cross-border trade, ICC champions liberalization of telecoms and development of infrastructures that support global online trade.

ICC has also led and coordinated the input of business around the world to the World Summit on the Information Society, Geneva 2003, Tunis 2005, and continues this effort in the activities established in the Tunis Agenda through its initiative, Business Action to Support the Information Society (BASIS <http://www.iccwbo.org/basis>).

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