Commenter	Regarding which Recommendation	Comment	Response	Change	Where
ALAC	Recommendation 1 - Provide transparency into existing Staff Accountability mechanisms.	We support.	Thank You.	N	N/A
ALAC		The ALAC also commends the development of a "cross-community" panel, involving the Ombudsman and the Complaints Officer as well as representatives of the Empowered Community and the ICANN Board, to deal more holistically with any contentious staff accountability issues.	Thank You.	N	N/A
GNSO-BC		The working group could additionally consider recommending some positive incentives, such as mechanisms to provide recognition staff members that go above and beyond duty in their service to the community on an ongoing basis. Recognition could also feed into a community-selected community recognition award for staff, similar to the ICANN multi-stakeholder ethos awards.	This should be considered in implementation.	N	N/A
GNSO-BC		If the working group intends further review of staff accountability, please consider looking at: staff empowerment, including whether staff feel meaningfully engaged in their work and have the resources and decisional latitude to effectively carry out their roles; and the relationship between community needs and staff growth and distribution.	The sub-group did not have the time to consider this suggestion.	N	N/A
GNSO-BC	Overall Comment	We support the reasoned approach taken by the Working Group in addressing staff accountability in terms of broad concerns and service delivery and organizational and departmental accountability objectives, without scrutinizing individual personnel or specific incidents. We believe that the recommendations adopted as part of this work track must be similarly balanced to provide the ICANN community with reasonable accountability and transparency improvements, while allowing ICANN to operate efficiently as an organization and its staff to perform their roles comfortably and confidently.	Thank You.	N	N/A

GNSO-BC	Recommendation 1 - Provide transparency into existing Staff Accountability mechanisms.	We strongly support the recommendations made to improve transparency regarding staff expectations and existing accountability mechanisms, particularly with respect to organizational and departmental goal setting and service level targets for regular processes and interactions with the community.	Thank You.	N	N/A
GNSO-BC	Recommendation 2.c - enhance existing accountability mechanisms .		After considering the comments on this recommendation it has been expanded in the final Staff Accountability recommendations to provide additional clarity (Was recommendation 2c and is now recommendation 2b in the final report)	Y	2b
GNSO-BC	Recommendation 4 - creation of service level definitions or guidelines.		After considering the comments on this recommendation it has been significantly reworked in the final Staff Accountability recommendations to better deal with the scope and implementation (Was recommendation 4 and is recommendation 3 in the final report)	Υ	3
GNSO-BC	Recommendation 4 - creation of service level definitions or guidelines.	Care must also be exercised so that service level targets are not set in such a way that diminishes the quality of important work being carried out by ICANN staff. For example, public comment summaries vary greatly both in terms of breadth and quality of analysis and timeline for delivery, which generally have a target date of two weeks from the close of the comment period. These published deadlines have occasionally been noted as a reason for the perceived decline in quality of some comment summaries. In many cases the value of high-quality summaries outweighs that of strict adherence to the 2-week SLA.	See previous response.	N	N/A

GNSO-BC	Recommendation 4 - creation of service level definitions or guidelines.	Similarly, if ICANN's compliance service level targets solely on ticket volume and timeline of closure, staff members might be incentivized to focus only on the simplest issues that could easily be resolved by deadline and ignore more complex issues that required longer resolution time, but for which resolution may be more beneficial to the community. An approach that provides some flexibility so that issues that are the most complex or controversial can still be addressed on a reasonable timeframe, provided reasonable transparency about the modified targets and their rationale, may help ensure that timeliness and quality are appropriately balanced against each other in service delivery.	See previous response.	N	N/A
GNSO-IPC	Recommendation 1 - Provide transparency into existing Staff Accountability mechanisms.	We support.	Thank You.	N	N/A
GNSO-IPC	Recommendation 2.a - enhance existing accountability mechanisms .	We support enhance existing accountability mechanisms to include collection of data from the community (surveys, focus groups, etc.). ICANN should consider recognizing staff for exemplary service to the community based on input collected from the community through these mechanisms.	This should be considered in implementation.	N	N/A
GNSO-IPC	Recommendation 3 - explore creation of four person ad-hoc panel	The IPC supports the proposed creation of a mechanism for an ad-hoc four-member panel to review concerns or issues raised by the community, the Ombudsman, ICANN staff or the ICANN board that at least two panel members agree requires further effort.	After considering all comments on this recommendation it was agreed that it should be dropped from the final report.	Y	N/A
GNSO-IPC	Recommendation 4 - creation of service level definitions or guidelines.	or the community. We urge ICANN to set goals for staff that balance a transparent	After considering the comments on this recommendation it has been significantly reworked in final Staff Accountability recommendations to better deal with the scope and implementation (Was recommendation 4 and is recommendation 3 in the final report)	Y	3

GNSO-RYSG	seek community input on organization's twice-annual	community members about their performance. To that end, the input sought should specifically relate to performance against previously agreed goals and should only be	After considering the comments on this recommendation it has been expanded in the final Staff Accountability recommendations to provide additional clarity (Was recommendation 2c and is now recommendation 2b in the final report)	Y	2b
GNSO-RYSG	Recommendation 3 - explore creation of four person ad-hoc panel		After considering all comments on this recommendation it was agreed that it should be dropped from the final report.	Y	N/A
GNSO-RYSG	Recommendation 4 - creation of service level definitions or guidelines.	guidelines and definitions will contribute to creating clear expectations and as such will be helpful for contracted parties as well as for individual staff members.	After considering the comments on this recommendation it has been significantly reworked in the final Staff Accountability recommendations to better deal with the scope and implementation (Was recommendation 4 and is recommendation 3 in the final report)	Y	3
ICANN Board	Overall Comment	The ICANN Board appreciates the opportunity to provide input to the CCWG WS2 report on recommendations to improve ICANN's Staff Accountability. We are providing these inputs to the Staff Accountability public comments for the further deliberations by the Subgroup and CCWG-Accountability.  One general observation before some specific comments that factor into these comments are the considerations of the recommendations in relation to ICANN's resources and ability to serve the global community. As ICANN operates within a specific budget based on limited funding, recommendations that add costs to ICANN's operations result in the organization needing to make trade-offs with other items, such as implementation of new policies, or innovation of existing programs or services to the global community. They might also establish a situation where the organization is unable to effectively meet community expectations with either the new recommendations or existing obligations. The CCWG-Accountability should consider these factors when providing guidance on the extent to which these recommendations should be implemented or prioritized.	Thank You.	N	N/A

ICANN Board	Overall Comment	· '	Prioritization and funding for implementation of recommendations is beyond the scope and capacity of WS2 and rests with ICANN and the community. the CCWG-Accountability-WS2 proposes to establish a small implementation team to assist ICANN and the community to ensure the implementation plan preserves the spirit of the recommendations and provide any interpretation advice as required.	N	N/A
ICANN Board	Recommendation 1 - Provide transparency into existing Staff Accountability mechanisms.	Much of the first recommendation, focused on transparency and accessibility of information that the CCWG-Accountability has identified as important components of staff accountability, are easily implemented. While there are different uses of the term "accountability mechanisms" within ICANN, we understand the following elements to be important regarding the relationship between the ICANN Community, Organization and Board:  - ICANN organization/staff goals and assessments: Information on how individual goals are set to align with ICANN's strategic goals, and information on the process of how staff member performance is assessed against those goals;  - Publication of key employee policies;  - Information on Roles and Responsibilities;  - Information on where to raise concerns about staff accountability, with more information about the differing roles of the Complaints Officer and the Ombudsman.  Making this information accessible from a single page seems to be a practical and implementable recommendation, as is the consideration of how else this information can be communicated or available. A lot of this information is already available, but in various places. ICANN organization may also need to develop some additional documentation regarding the performance management system process for posting.	Thank You.	Z	N/A

ICA	NN Board		The reference to "expectations and guidelines regarding the development of staff reports for Public Comment" is an area where the report could benefit from more specific problem statements. It is not clear what is being requested here.	Staff reports on public comments as currently published are highly variable and often formulaic and usually provide little added value for the commenters and the community. Specific recommendations could include:  • Providing a consistent format for presenting the analysis of comments.  • Providing a global colour coded assessment matrix of the key topics/elements which are commented on to provide a clear and simple summary of the level of support by commenter for these.  • Clearly noting if a specific comment did produce a change in the report being commented and what and where that change was made would be a significant improvement.	N	N/A
ICA	NN Board	Recommendation 2.a - enhance existing accountability mechanisms .	In the second recommendation, the overarching goal that ICANN should continue to support and evolve ways to understand and measure accountability concerns between community members and staff members is useful. As the report notes, there are already many new efforts underway to measure this, such as the regular reporting of the Complaints Office and satisfaction surveys for those using the Global Support Center or Contractual Compliance department. Additionally, the regular CEO reports provide regular updates to the community on ICANN organization activities. ICANN organization agrees that a focus on the effectiveness of existing tools should be considered prior to developing new or potentially duplicative processes. Further expansion of information acquisition mechanisms will incur new ongoing resource requirements, which carry prioritization and funding considerations.  The second recommendation also aligns with the Board's FY18 priorities as announced prior to ICANN60. As part of the Board's priority of improving interaction with the community, the Board specified:  5.2 – Service Satisfaction – The Board will review the findings of community surveys https://www.icann.org/search/#!/?searchText=survey conducted over the past three years to understand whether ICANN (Board and ICANN Org) activities actually lead to overall improvement of service satisfaction within the community. https://www.icann.org/news/blog/about-the-fy18-board-activities-priorities  In relation to interactions with the ICANN community, the ICANN Board intends to use the outcomes of its review to work with the President and CEO to identify where improvements need to be made, including issues of staff accountability.	Thank You.	N	N/A

ICANN Board	Recommendation 2.b - standardize and publish guidelines for response to community requests.	differing "requests" about which the CCWG- Accountability is seeking information. It is also important to understand how this differs from the fourth recommendation on service level guidelines.	After considering the comments on this recommendation the standardization of timeframes in this recommendation has been amalgamated into recommendation 3 in the final Staff Accountability recommendations, where additional framing is provided. (was recommendation 4 in the previous version and is now recommendation 3	Y	2b, 3
ICANN Board	Recommendation 2c - seek community input I on organization's twice-annual performance reviews.	Performance reviews are internal management issues. However, community feedback on staff performance can already be given via a number of mechanisms.	After considering the comments on this recommendation it has been expanded in the final Staff Accountability recommendations to provide additional clarity (Was recommendation 2c and is now recommendation 2b in the final report)	Y	2b

ICANN Board	Recommendation 3 - explore creation of four person ad-hoc panel		After considering all comments on this recommendation it was agreed that it should be dropped from the final report.	Y	N/A
ICANN Board	Recommendation 4 - creation of service level definitions and guidelines.	specific areas of service activity and expectation, would be needed to help ensure	After considering the comments on this recommendation it has been significantly reworked in the final Staff Accountability recommendations to better deal with the scope and implementation (Was recommendation 4 and is recommendation 3 in the final report)	Y	3

	Regarding Assessment of issues	The ICANN organization appreciates the challenges involved with broaching this topic, and acknowledges the challenge in gathering data of individual instances of concern and synthesizing that information into broader themes that accurately reflect issues at the service delivery or departmental level. As noted before, however, greater detail of the evidence collected is necessary to support the conclusions of the Subgroup and CCWG-Accountability.	As noted in the report, by focusing on improving the processes and culture associated with staff accountability at the service delivery, departmental, or organizational level, the group did not identify individuals and does not identify specific incidents in this report.  After the elements involved in the group's assessment were collected and discussed, the themes these recommendations address emerged which the group determined are of a sufficiently systemic nature and should be addressed by the community.  It should be noted that none of the public comment responses from the community questioned or challenged these themes. Additionally, recommendation 4 which we see as a bellwether, clearly shows a perfect dichotomy of views between the Board and the community which in itself should provide sufficient evidence that there are systemic issues which need addressing.  The subgroup is confident in its conclusion that these themes and the recommendations arising from them are valid and worthy of being addressed.	N	N/A
CANN Board	Regarding Description of Roles and Responsibilities	The descriptions laid out in this section are concise and straightforward. Following from the work that lead to ICANN's Delegation of Authority Guidelines, the CCWG-Accountability's work in providing clear roles and descriptions for how the three parts of ICANN work together provide a basis for understanding and evaluating how these roles and responsibilities are conducted. The role and responsibilities of ICANN's President and CEO as it relates to the broader accountability of the ICANN organization is a key consideration when viewing these recommendations. All members of the ICANN organization are ultimately accountable to the ICANN President and CEO in the performance of their work. The President and CEO is then accountable to the Board for performance of the organization, including how service is delivered to the community.	Thank You.	N	N/A

Kris Seeburn	Overall Comment	From ALAC - AFRALO Perspective  (long - please see original for complete comment) I just wanted to add something important to the whole list. Describing all these annexes and so on is great but the most important things is and also personal view. I would like to see ICANN accountability is a very clear cut way. I am unsure where these will fit but i would really like to ensure that not everything either is board or staff or community. It is a shared responsibility. So i'd let staff see best fit on this.  "How do I get people/staff to be more accountable for results?"  Accountability is not simply taking the blame when something goes wrong. It's not a confession. Accountability is about delivering on a commitment. It's responsibility to an outcome, not just a set of tasks. It's taking initiative with thoughtful, strategic followthrough.  And it's necessary at all levels of the hierarchy. Executives high on the org chart can't really be accountable unless the people who report to them also follow through on their commitments. Getting angry with people when they fall short is not a productive process for holding people accountable. It almost always reduces motivation and performance.  So what can we do to foster accountability in the people around us? We need to aim for clarity in five areas:		Z	N/A
RrSG	Overall Comment	It is vital not to conflate the proliferation of accountability mechanisms with increasing accountability effectively.  The tendency and temptation of all exercises in holding people accountable is to add to the number of mechanisms and thereby blur lines of authority. The incentives apply to both groups involved in this exercise: ICANN staff and the stakeholder groups. The people who are being held accountable, in this case ICANN staff, have incentives to add to the number of managers, institutions, and mechanisms to whom and by which they report, or at least not to resist them too hard. Why? Because the multiplication of interests, managers and mechanisms creates blurred accountability, which engenders a loss of clarity as to who is responsible to whom and for what. The temptation of stakeholder groups may also be to think that increasing the number and kind of accountability mechanisms will actually increase accountability. The result is budget bloat and a lack of effectiveness.  With that caution in mind, the RrSG makes the following observations.	Thank You.	Z	N/A

RrSG	Overall Comment	(Observation) The RrSG notes the contradiction between the elaborate mechanisms already in place and the apparent reluctance of people to use them (as the Study Group avers in its Issues section on page 6). It might be asked why, if the mechanisms are in place, and they are considered "formal" and "alarmist", the addition of more mechanisms and procedures would improve accountability. The answer may be that the specific recommendations of the CCWG may lessen confusion, and increase the general understanding of members of stakeholder groups and of ICANN staff of what they may reasonably expect from one another.	Thank You.	N	N/A
RrSG	Overall Comment	(Observation) The staff of the ICANN Organization are responsible to the chief executive officer, and the CEO is in turn responsible to the Board. The ICANN organization acts as a supplier of services to the constituencies or stakeholder groups. Accordingly, the relationship of the ICANN Organization and ICANN Board to its Community is one of supplier to customers. This relationship came into being when ICANN severed its relation to the US Department of Commerce.	Thank You.	N	N/A
RrSG	Overall Comment	(Observation) Measures to increase or make more effective the accountability relationship of ICANN organization staff to the Stakeholder Groups need to be considered in the light of the customer-supplier relationship. Stakeholder groups must be able to know what they may reasonably expect from staff, and what the limits are of their respective roles.	Please see the new version of recommendation 3 which should address some of these concerns.	Y	3
RrSG	Recommendation 1 - Provide transparency into existing Staff Accountability mechanisms.	The RrSG considers these ideas virtuous and to a degree desirable but not likely to be significant.	Thank You.	N	N/A
RrSG	Recommendation 2.a - enhance existing accountability mechanisms .	The RrSG considers this recommendation 2a to be without merit. It consists of needless complexity, and implies that accountability is achieved by mechanisms, and if one does not work, let's add another.	The majority of the participants in the sub-group as well as other comments received disagree with this conclusion.	N	N/A

RrSG	Recommendation 2.b - standardize and publish guidelines for response to community requests.	The registrars consider this recommendations to have real merit. Recommendation 2b is consistent with the idea that ICANN serves a clientele, which is composed of stakeholder groups, and that obligations are owed to the customers.	After considering the comments on this recommendation the standardization of timeframes in this recommendation has been amalgamated into recommendation 3 in the final Staff Accountability recommendations, where additional framing is provided. (was recommendation 4 in the previous version and is now recommendation 3 in the final report)	Υ	2b, 3
RrSG		would have the effect of allowing ICANN management to measure the effectiveness of community-facing personnel by their relationships to the people they are supposed	After considering the comments on this recommendation it has been expanded in the final Staff Accountability recommendations to provide additional clarity (Was recommendation 2c and is now recommendation 2b in the final report)	Υ	2b
RrSG	explore creation of four person ad-hoc panel	The RrSG considers this recommendation to be more a symptom of the problem besetting ICANN's institutional style than its solution. The problem is the proliferation of processes, groups, subgroups, mechanisms and bureaucratic busy-ness, all of which raise costs, increase the opacity of the organization and reward insider knowledge. Surely with all the talent available someone or some people can pick up a phone and sort out a problem informally. Providing for every corner-case is unwise.	After considering all comments on this recommendation it was agreed that it should be dropped from the final report.	Υ	N/A
RrSG	Recommendation 4 - creation of service level definitions and guidelines.	(long - please see original for complete comment) The Registrars consider these two ideas to be the best in the whole report. Our reasons are as follows:  • They are consistent with the customer – supplier arrangement that now characterizes ICANN's relationship to its stakeholders;  • They require no new organizations;  • They establish clearer expectations of everyone in ICANN;  • They are practical;  • They cause a focus by management and staff on what needs to happen between ICANN and its stakeholders-customers;  • They shift attention away from a preoccupation with procedural fairness issues, which dominate too much of the internal workings of the organization  • The SLAs are the accountability mechanisms. The idea behind service level agreements provides the criteria by which to evaluate the other recommendations of this report.	After considering the comments on this recommendation it has been significantly reworked in the final Staff Accountability recommendations to better deal with the scope and implementation (Was recommendation 4 and is recommendation 3 in the final report)	Y	3

Valideus	Recommendation 2.a - enhance existing accountability mechanisms .	The proposed "regular information acquisition mechanism" may be helpful. There is a natural tendency to recollect and report on a bad experience far more readily than a good one. Consideration should be given as to how an information acquisition mechanism can be developed in a way to encourage the capture of the positive and not just the negative. This would ensure that ICANN Organization is aware of what is working effectively, and what is not working and may require change.	This should be considered in implementation.	N	N/A
Valideus	seek community input on organization's twice-annual	(long - please see original for complete comment) We have concerns about this recommendation, which would encourage "people managers of community-facing staff [to] seek input from the appropriate community members during the organization's twice-annual performance reviews". Absent great care in the development of such an input process, and in the treatment and weight given to such community input, this has the risk of serious unintended consequences.  We note that this recommendation to seek input into individual staff performance reviews does not align with the focus of the subgroup, as set out in paragraph 3 of the Introduction, as being to "assess "staff accountability" and performance at the service delivery, departmental, or organizational level, and not at the individual, personnel level" (emphasis added).  Given that individual performance reviews are frequently conducted to coincide with assessments on pay increases and bonuses, and that they can be expected to also be taken into account in relation to promotion prospects and disciplinary proceedings, this gives rise to a number of considerations, concerns and risks, including the following:	After considering the comments on this recommendation it has been expanded in the final Staff Accountability recommendations to provide additional clarity (Was recommendation 2c and is now recommendation 2b in the final report)	Y	2b