

**ICANN BOARD SUBMISSION NO. 2016.11.05.1a**

**TITLE:** **Posting for Public Comment – Draft ICANN Community-Anti-Harassment Policy**

**PROPOSED ACTION:** **For Board Consideration and Approval**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

During and after ICANN55, the issue of certain community-member conduct toward one another was raised in various sessions and on various email lists, and the Board agreed to address this matter. First, ICANN undertook the revision of ICANN’s Expected Standards of Behavior (see <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/expected-standards-2016-06-28-en>), which now includes specific reference to harassment and other conduct that is not acceptable.

In addition, the organization has worked with experts, as needed and appropriate, to help develop a draft “Community Anti-Harassment Policy” for the Community’s consideration, which if adopted should be followed at ICANN Public meetings and during all community interactions. The Board is now being asked to authorize the posting for public comment the draft Community Anti-Harassment Policy, which can be found as the Reference Materials to this Board paper.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION:**

Whereas, during and after ICANN55, the issue of certain community-member conduct toward one another was raised in various ICANN sessions and on various ICANN email lists.

Whereas, the ICANN Board agreed to address the issue of ICANN Community member conduct toward one another.

Whereas, on 25 June 2016, following receipt and consideration of public comments, the Board approved (see <https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2016-06-25-en#2.f>) revised Expected Standards of Behavior, which more specifically addresses the issue of harassment than the earlier version had.

Whereas, in furtherance of the public comments referenced above, in consultation with an expert, as needed and appropriate, the Organization has developed a draft ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy for the Community’s consideration.

Resolved (2106.11.05.xx), the Board hereby authorizes the posting of the draft ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy for public comment for 60 days in order to give the Community sufficient time to discuss the draft Policy, as well as formulate and submit public comment(s) on the draft Policy.

Resolved (2016.11.05.xx), following receipt of public comment, the Board will evaluate those comments and will again engage with the Community to the extent significant changes to the proposed Policy are suggested.

**PROPOSED RATIONALE:**

During and after ICANN55, the issue of certain community-member conduct toward one another was raised in various sessions and on various email lists, and the Board agreed to address this matter. In response, the Board has confirmed and reiterated that ICANN’s Board and staff take the issue of harassment or other improper conduct at its meetings very seriously. ICANN and members of the community share the goal of ensuring that ICANN community members are able to participate and contribute within an environment that remains free from harassment.

As an organization, ICANN has robust internal policies regarding the issue, including mandatory training. While ICANN community members are not bound to the same policies and rules as the ICANN organization or the Board, everyone who participated in ICANN processes should expect community members to adhere to certain Expected Standards of Behavior. In addressing the issues identified at ICANN55, one step taken was to revise the Expected Standards of Behavior to specifically call out issues of harassment and the fact that such conduct is not acceptable in any ICANN fora. The revised Board-approved version of ICANN’s Expected Standards of Behavior can be found at: <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/expected-standards-2016-06-28-en>.

In addition, as directed by the Board, the organization worked with an expert, as appropriate and necessary, to develop a draft “Community Anti-Harassment Policy” for the Community’s consideration and comment. If adopted, the Policy should be followed at ICANN Public meetings and throughout other ICANN community interactions. The draft Community Anti-Harassment Policy is the Reference Materials document to this Board Paper and incorporates many of the ideas suggested in response to the public comments received on the revised Expected Standards of Behavior (for report on those comments, see <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/report-comments-expected-standards-revisions-11jul16-en.pdf>).

It is not anticipated that this decision will have any fiscal impact on ICANN, and it will not have any impact on the security, stability or resiliency of the domain name system.

This decision is an Organizational Administrative Function that is directly leading to public comment on this topic.

Submitted By: Amy A. Stathos, Deputy General Counsel  
Dated Noted: 31 October 2016  
Email: amy.stathos@icann.org

## 5 November Regular Meeting of the ICANN Board – Agenda

### Main Agenda

- Draft ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy
- AOB

Executive Session - confidential

**Directors and Liaisons,**

**Attached below please find Notice of date and time for a Regular Meeting of the ICANN Board of Directors.**

**5 November 2016 – Regular Meeting of the ICANN Board of Directors - at 08:00 UTC (1:30pm in Hyderabad). This Board meeting is estimated to last approximately 90 minutes.**

**<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/fixetime.html?msg=Regular+Meeting+of+the+ICANN+Board&iso=20161105T1330&p1=505&ah=1&am=30>**

**Some other time zones:**

**5 November 2016 – 1:00am PDT Los Angeles**

**5 November 2016 – 4:00am EDT Washington, D.C.**

**5 November 2016 – 9:00am CEST Brussels**

**5 November 2016 – 4:00pm CST Taipei**

## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE ICANN BOARD**

Main Agenda

- Items Arising out of ICANN 57
- AOB

Executive Session

**MATERIALS – You can access the Board Meeting materials, when available, in Google Drive here:**

Contact Information Redacted

**If you have trouble with access, please let us know and we will work with you to assure that you get access to the documents.**

**If call information is required, it will be distributed separately.**

**If you have any questions, or we can be of assistance to you, please let us know.**

**John Jeffrey**

**General Counsel & Secretary, ICANN**

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