

30 June 2023

**Subject:** Nominating Committee (NomCom) Rebalancing

Ms Tripti Sinha  
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors

Dear Tripti,

Thank you and the ICANN Board for bringing to our attention the issue of Nominating Committee (NomCom) “rebalancing”. The ISPCP is happy to provide the following inputs to the points raised in your letter.

1. *What does it mean to have a balanced NomCom at a point in time? For example, what criteria would you apply to measure or assess whether the NomCom is balanced? And further, how can one test whether or not the NomCom is balanced?*

The ISPCP considers the achievement of a balanced NomCom to be as much a matter of diversity of affiliations or geography as a matter of diversity of skillset, a skillset which should be reflective of the ICANN Community. The rationale for achieving diversity within NomCom should therefore reflect that careful balance which then translates into diversity with the appointments themselves and ultimately ensure NomCom finds the required skillset for each appointment.

In this respect, the ISPCP would also like to see more emphasis put on meeting the expected skillset provided by the Board and Community targeted structures (ICANN Board, PTI Board, ALAC, ccNSO Council and GNSO Council) through their respective Recommendations to NomCom.

2. *Do you support the view that the current composition of the NomCom needs to be rebalanced? Please explain why or why not.*

The ISPCP is supportive of a rebalanced NomCom, including but not necessarily limited to the proposed ICANN Bylaws Amendments. Although the change would only apply to the delegate status, we consider that it would help broaden NomCom’s skillset as described in 1). We also note that the balance of NomCom has not changed for several years, whereas the Community and its stakeholders have evolved during that same period; the need for every organization to revisit its structure on a regular basis would suggest an evolution of that nature is necessary.

3. *How frequently does the balance need to be measured or assessed?*

The ISPCP acknowledges NomCom2 Review's recommendation 10 regarding a periodic review of every five years and agrees that such a timeframe may be a sound basis for a periodic review, which may also be viewed in the context of the Strategic plan cycle based on a similar timeframe. However, the ISPCP notes the potential challenge of setting high standards for periodic reviews of NomCom when other critical reviews such as the Holistic Review have been long awaited. In this regard, the ISPCP would see some benefit in considering such rebalance in the broader context of this Holistic Review, if this were to embrace an organizational restructuring and balance of the various stakeholders in the Community.

4. *How do you suggest that the NomCom's composition be rebalanced?*

The ISPCP is supportive of the proposed ICANN Bylaws Amendments to move the non-voting delegates currently selected by the GAC, RSSAC, and SSAC to voting delegate status. The ISPCP also considers that the balance of NomCom goes beyond the distribution of seats among the various stakeholders, and what matters for NomCom is for it to foster non-partisan deliberations and adherence to high standard expectations of the positions to be filled.

5. *Who should conduct this work, and how should it be conducted?*

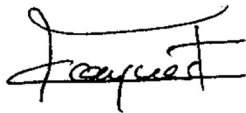
The ISPCP considers that rebalancing and generally reviewing NomCom should proceed through internal reviews by members of the community rather than some external/outsourced review effort. As noted above, the ISPCP sees dependencies between balancing NomCom's composition and a structural evolution through the Holistic Review and therefore considers this effort to be of the same priority as the Holistic Review, which in our view should proceed jointly – and expeditiously.

6. *How would your community group prioritize consideration of this issue within your planning efforts?*

In light of 5, the ISPCP considers this rebalancing effort to be of a high priority.

The ISPCP thank you for the opportunity of sharing our views on a balanced NomCom. The Constituency is highly appreciative of the critical role and responsibility of NomCom in appointing the ICANN Leadership Positions on behalf of the interests of the global Internet community and grateful to those who serve on the Committee for the benefit of the Community.

Best Regards,



Philippe Fouquart  
Chair, Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers (ISPCP)