

**Subject:** SSR2-RT - SSR2 Facilitator  
**Date:** 15 February 2018  
**From:** SO/AC Chairs  
**To:** OEC; SSR2 Board Caucus Group

Dear Khaled and colleagues,

We acknowledge receipt of your email below and appreciate your interest in the current status of our collaboration in respect of the SSR2 Review Team ("SSR2-RT").

Immediately following our meeting on 8 January with you and other members of the OEC/SSR2 Board Caucus Group, we met to discuss progress within our various SO/ACs with a view to outlining a clear process towards re-start of the SSR2 Review Team. Specifically, within the SO/ACs we are reviewing the current skills matrix and membership and taking steps to further develop the membership team, in particular where skills gaps may be present. This is an area where we feel the SO/ACs can proactively lead, given that it has been our role from the start to establish the membership of the group.

We appreciate that one of the "expected outcomes" of our meeting with you on January 8th was the offer of "any particular help from Board or Org". After further discussion, we wish to request the support of the OEC/SSR2 Board Caucus Group for the involvement of an external facilitator to assist the members of the SSR2 RT in resolving issues of scope, membership, and other issues as raised by the RT members. We believe that an external facilitator would help the group to coalesce around common goals, establish leadership for the work ahead, and transition ASAP to a normal working capacity. The primary aim of the external facilitator would be to facilitate this transition process, with a view to winding facilitation down when RT members and leaders consider that issues are satisfactorily resolved to continue their work.

While conscious of the FY19 budget constraints, we believe that the concerns raised by the Board as to the RT's success and the profile and importance of the SSR2 as the first post-IANA transition review amply justify the resource expenditure.

We are likewise conscious of the value of SSR2-RT returning to normal status as soon as possible, so consider this request to be our top priority in these final weeks before ICANN61 in San Juan. We are prepared to discuss the matter in San Juan but hope that a decision can be taken prior to the end of ICANN61 to enable a timely progression to next steps.

On behalf of the SO/AC Chairs,

Heather Forrest  
GNSO Chair