



Amsterdam, The Netherlands
29 May 2019

2019 CENTR Board of Directors offsite conclusions

The CENTR Board of Directors met on 29 May in Amsterdam, The Netherlands for a strategic offsite meeting with the goal to review the strategic plan and budget, and in particular to review the basic elements of CENTR's strategic planning in the light of its mission statement and to kick off the 2020 strategic planning process.

In the course of its discussions, the Board came to the following conclusions:

- The Board assessed progress-to-date on the strategic plan and noted that the execution of operational plans is on track. Structural support to working groups will be increased in the second half of the year.
- The Board instructed the Secretariat to strictly oversee organisational formalities in preparation of and during meetings. The option to run votes online should be explored. All issues tabled for voting need to be documented in detail before the meeting.
- Triggered by questions raised in the advent of the Jamboree, the Board reiterates that the GA's intention was to ensure that CENTR will continue to provide trusted spaces for exchanges between ccTLDs. At the same time, gTLD associate members and observers are warmly invited to continue to contribute during open sessions which will be clearly marked on future working group meeting and Jamboree agendas.
- The Board reviewed the organisation's strategic and operational risks during SWOT and PESTEL exercises and asked the General Manager to present the findings during the upcoming summer calls.
- The Board notes the increasing success of remote participation tools and confirms the continuing investment in this area. It calls on future hosts to provide for staff support to help CENTR staff with practicalities related to the operation of the equipment.
- The Board notes the need to plan for increased support and resources for collaboration, within and outside of working groups.
- Additionally, it expects an increasing impact of public policy issues on registries' operations and therefore a continuing need for a strong central resource and support.
- In order to support these needs, the Board recommends an increase of the membership fees in the range of 10 to 20%. The Board refers to the GA decision in October 2014 to freeze the membership fees for three years and commends the Secretariat for using the allocated resources efficiently for a longer period.
- The Board wishes to express appreciation for Working Group Chairs & Vice-Chairs, as well as active Working Group participants. After analysing the internal data, the Board noted continuing strong engagement.