

Board of Directors 2020 strategy meeting - Conclusions

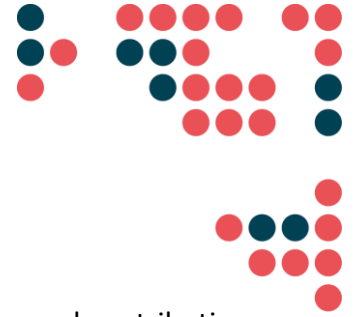
Online June 3rd, 4th and 10th

The CENTR Board met online on June 3rd, 4th and 10th to assess the progress to date on the CENTR 2020 work plan and reflect on the services, operations and resources needed for 2021. The following are the outcomes of those discussions.

- Based on a detailed risk assessment, the CENTR Board instructed the Secretariat to plan for an online General Assembly 64, Registrar Day and Leaders' Day in October 2020.
- The Board took note of the plans to hold the Admin working group and L&R working group meetings (scheduled for September 2020) online. The decision about the September Tech working group meeting will be taken by the Tech WG Chairs in cooperation with DNS-OARC in the coming weeks.
- After assessing the progress to date on the 2020 strategic plan, the Board concluded that the COVID19 situation has not significantly affected the second and third strategic goals of the organization, member collaboration and information exchange respectively. The Board noted that the strategic goal associated with policy has been negatively affected due to delays caused in the regulatory processes.
- The Board expects a significant budget surplus in 2020, due to cancellation of meetings and reduced travel expenses. The Board will reassign some of these funds to support the secretariat in reaching the 2020 goals where needed.
- The Board discussed CENTR's meeting strategy and will be updated taking into account the impacts of COVID-19. This plan will be presented to Members for consideration during the summer months. It will be based on the following:
 - The BoD proposes to hold the first GA of the year online
 - All Working groups will be asked to hold their physical meetings in February and October where possible



- The CVCs will be asked to propose changes to the Jamboree and turn it into a Members' Days event. The intent is to refocus around key topics, Member exchanges and networking. This event will take place in June.
 - The second GA of the year will remain a physical meeting and retain the structure it currently has, but the focus will be on opening the CENTR community for outside organisations and stakeholders. It will take place in November.
 - Working groups are encouraged to have more online intersessional meetings, the Secretariat will increase financial and staff support for these meetings where needed
 - Member Days should preferably be held in easily accessible geographic hubs. Together with moving the first GA online, this will get us on the path towards a more sustainable (ecologically and economically) method of meeting. Further, the Board instructs the secretariat to investigate an additional a set of recommendations to make our meetings more sustainable. The location of the first CENTR Members' Days is still to be determined.
- The Board discussed in detail possible improvements to the way CENTR supports collaboration and the development of projects within the community. It concluded that:
- The Board wishes to recognise the efforts by all volunteers and contributors to these collaborative projects or research initiatives and is committed to provide them with the support they deem necessary. These initiatives are an important part of the fabric of our community and serve to enhance cross community collaboration and learning.
 - Some collaborative initiatives and the volunteers carrying these projects would have fared better if there had been a more defined set of processes and structure in place to enable their work.
 - The Board instructs the secretariat to draft a process flow and share this with the membership for feedback. Utmost care should be taken that this template flow provides guidance and support and does not create burdensome formalities.
 - The Board wants to ensure that limited CENTR resources are allocated to priority projects that serve the whole CENTR community.
- The Board analysed the data sets on working group meeting activity and membership satisfaction ratings. It concluded that trends have continued to climb and have now close to maximal satisfaction levels for all working groups. It commends the CVCs for their leadership and hard work. Working groups are a critical mechanism for shared learning and problem solving within the community.
- The Board will launch a Membership survey towards the end of the year. This survey will be similar to the large Membership survey that ran in 2015. This survey will be executed by a third party.



- The Board wants to thank all members for their continuing active participation and contributions of datasets and knowledge. It is these exchanges that form the core of the community's collective learning and growth.
- The Board would like to recognize the excellent work by the CENTR Secretariat. Despite being a small group, the team provides a great deal of support in the areas of logistical, administrative and policy support. This support always delivers high quality outcomes in a very professional manner. We would also like to warmly welcome incoming staff member Amelia Andersdotter.
- The Board is well aware that the upcoming 2021 strategic and operational plan strongly depends on the health of the organisation and its staff. All the plans will be thoroughly evaluated in the light of limited resources of a small CENTR team and ensure that priorities are effectively established.