

IETF Chair's Report to ISOC Board

22 March 2018

Dear trustees,

I wanted to provide you an update about the IETF's project to re-factoring our administrative structure, also known as the IETF Administrative Support Activity (IASA) 2.0 project.

The arrangements relating to administrative support for the IETF were created more than ten years ago. While they have served the IETF well, the community has identified a number of challenges that need to be addressed. Since November 2016 the community has been having discussions to re-assess our administrative structure. Earlier this week, we had a session at IETF 101 to drill down on several legal structure options.

These options have been described in a legal memo

<<https://mailarchive.ietf.org/arch/attach/iasa20/pdfEFQilq.pdf>> that arose out of conversations between myself, Richard Barnes, Sean Turner, David Frolio, Sandy Spector, and ISOC's tax attorneys at Morgan Lewis.

The key outcome from the session earlier this week was that we identified rough consensus in the room in favor of of creating a limited liability corporation (LLC) that is treated as a division of ISOC for tax purposes to house the administration of the IETF (option 3 in the legal memo). This consensus needs to be confirmed within the IETF community via email on the iasa20@ietf.org list. Once that occurs, we will seek to create an IETF working group to update existing IETF documents that describe our administrative arrangements to account for this change. In parallel, we will begin working with our legal counsel and the appropriate individuals at ISOC to draft the necessary legal documents. We anticipate that the ISOC Board of Trustees will need to ratify these.

I would be happy to brief the board in more depth about this at any time.

For updates about the rest of the work of the IETF since IETF 100, please see

<<https://datatracker.ietf.org/meeting/101/materials/slides-101-ietf-sessb-ietf-chair-and-iesg-report-ietf-101>>.

Regards,
Alissa Cooper
IETF Chair