

Public Executive Director Report

For the IETF Administration LLC Board meeting on 6 October 2026

This report is provided by the IETF Executive Director and is taken as read. As the IETF Executive Director is on PTO, the Senior Director of Communications and Operations will present. This report is public.

1. Strategic Matters

2026-2029 Draft Strategic Plan (Board retreat)

A revised version has been provided to the board for review with a view to this being approved at the November Board meeting.

2. Policies

Investment Policy

A revised version has been provided to the board for review with a view to this being approved at the November Board meeting.

3. Finance

Budget 2027

An initial budget is being presented in the Board/ED section of the meeting and the Board will be asked to approve the budget going to the community for consultation.

Authorised users for financial services

The changes to authorised used for our bank and investment advisers are still being processed.

4. RFPs and contracts

RFP for IETF New Participants Online Training

This RFP has closed and at the time of writing, the responses are being evaluated.

5. Meetings

Remote rooms

The consultation on remote rooms has closed and a full report will be presented for the November board meeting.

IETF 127 San Francisco

Preparations for IETF 127 San Francisco continue without issue.

Future Meetings

The current status is:

- IETF 127 San Francisco – Meeting registration is open.
- IETF 128 Kuala Lumpur – Negotiations with hotels are in the final stages and once those are completed, registrations will be opened.
- IETF 129 Berlin – Booked and announced. Host announced.
- IETF 130 Vancouver – Booked and announced. In discussions with a host
- IETF 131 (Asia) – Due to the originally reserved slot being given away, we are speaking to previous venues in Asia.
- IETF 132 (Europe) – The site visit will be underway during the Board meeting.
- IETF 133 (possible exploratory) – This is waiting for local supporters to work with the hotel to help them understand the IETF network and how that works, before they will commit to making the changes necessary to support it.
- IETF 134 (Asia) – In negotiations with the venue originally reserved for IETF 131.

Overhaul of meeting and sponsorship community engagement

The whole area of meeting and sponsorship community engagement is being overhauled, with a number of strands to it:

1. Meetings related consultations are now going out from the Senior Director of Meetings and Events and they will be collating the feedback for them.

2. A new monthly report for the community on meetings and sponsorships will be launched in November.
3. The information on the website about the cities considered as IETF venues will change to provide more details on why a city is rejected and to properly age out older assessments and allow a city to be re-assessed.
4. The sponsorship pages on the website will be replaced with a new set, better designed for pulling in sponsors.

Meetings Ts & Cs relating to promotional material

Following the incidents of unapproved promotional material being distributed at IETF 126 Vienna, the [IETF Meeting Terms and Conditions](#) have been updated with a new section to address this.

6. Tools/RPC/RSWG/RSCE

Monthly reports

The September [monthly Tools report](#) and [monthly RPC report](#) have been posted. Both contain important information on the work being undertaken by the teams.

RPC SLA

The community [consultation on a proposed RPC SLA](#) has closed after an extension. A report will be provided for the November board meeting.

Tools consultations

Two new consultations have been issued since the last board meeting:

Consultation on the User Experience of IETF Tools - feedback due by 12 October 2026

User Experience (UX) in this document covers the many aspects of IETF participant interaction with IETF Tools including user interfaces, access controls, client software requirements and usage modes (e.g. offline usage).

IETF Tools have developed organically over many years for most of that time the user experience was designed by the developer responsible for each system.

While developers can design functional UIs, there is a difference between that and those designed by User Experience (UX) specialists. Specialists have recently been used for the first time to design the UX for the new rfc-editor.org website. The other aspects of the

user experience have had explicit decisions and others have developed organically. While there have been some community discussions on some aspects, until now there has not been a formal process to elicit and incorporate community views into Tools development plans.

This consultation documents the current approach to the User Experience of IETF Tools, with the exception of systems performance as that is the subject of a parallel consultation, and seeks feedback on what needs to change. Please read the full consultation document here:

https://www.ietf.org/media/documents/Consultation_on_the_User_Experience_of_IETF_Tools.pdf

Consultation on a Service Level Agreement for IETF Tools - feedback due by 12 October 2026

The IETF Tools are a critical resource for the Internet standards process but SLA coverage is poor. Some small aspects have had a performance SLA, but most parts of this service have, since inception, been provided on a “best efforts” basis with formal agreements only covering capacity and incident response times, not availability and system performance as normally found in an SLA.

This consultation closes that gap by proposing an SLA framework and some initial targets, on which community feedback is sought.

For clarity, this SLA is solely targeted at system performance and availability, not the performance of the Tools Team or their scheduling/planning of work, though it is understood that those are subjects that also require in-depth discussion with the community.

Please read the full consultation document here:

https://www.ietf.org/media/documents/Consultation_on_a_Service_Level_Agreement_for_IETF_Tools.pdf

Mail infrastructure transition

IETF mail services recently transitioned to a modern, modular, and containerized infrastructure as explained in a [blog post](#). This transition resulted in some problems, all of which have now been resolved. The ED has [apologized](#) for the problems caused.

The background here is that a new mail infrastructure was commissioned three years ago but after repeated issues a new contractor was asked to pick up the work and complete it. Unfortunately, there were multiple problems in one core component of the original work

that was not rewritten by the new contractor and these problems were not detected before launch.

New RFC Editor website feature launch

A major set of new features for the RFC Editor website will be launched by the time of the Board meeting. A blog post with full details will be published before they go live.

7. IESG/IAB/IRTF/Trust

Rights to reuse old RFCs in the standards process

The IETF LLC has been supporting the IESG in untangling the rights issues faced by authors in reusing content from older RFCs in the standards process. It had been incorrectly assumed that only RFCs published after RFC 5378 (BCP 9) *Rights Contributors Provide to the IETF Trust* could be freely used, but counsel have clarified that this right has existed since RFC 1602 (v2 of the standards process). A new [chairs wiki page](#) has been drafted with guidance on this matter.

IAB Survey on Future ISE Selection Criteria

The IAB has issued a survey on future ISE selection criteria, supported by the Research and Insights Analyst.

8. Communications/Outreach

Annual IETF Community Survey

Preparations have started for the annual IETF Community Survey that will be launched before the end of the year. Consultation with the IESG is planned for IETF 127 San Francisco.

9. Fundraising

Nothing to report

10. Miscellaneous

ED Leave

The ED is on leave from 2 -15 October and will be uncontactable for several days. Laura Nugent, Senior Director of Meetings and Events, will be Acting ED.