

# Public Executive Director Report

For the IETF Administration LLC Board meeting on 1 September 2026

This report is provided by the IETF Executive Director and is taken as read. This report is public.

## 1. Strategic Matters

### 2026-2029 Draft Strategic Plan (Board retreat)

A revised version is still being worked on.

## 2. Policies

### Investment Policy

The next steps on this are dependent on the discussion with Goldman Sachs as described below, in order to clarify what further changes are needed.

## 3. Finance

### Brokerage account

We have a brokerage account with Goldman Sachs that was used as a working capital holding account when ISOC transferred funds/stocks to the LLC when it was first established. By December 2020 it was reduced to \$137,000 and has grown slowly due to just interest to \$164,000 July 2026. There has been no other movement in this account for the 6 years since 2020.

Now that we have an official working capital account, there is no need for this account and so I recommend closing this account and transferring the funds to the working capital account.

**Proposed resolution:** *RESOLVED, to close the Goldman Sachs brokerage account and transfer the funds to the Goldman Sachs working capital account.*

## Authorised signatories for financial accounts

The recent departure of the previous Treasurer highlighted that under those circumstances, the LLC is down to just one authorised signatory for both our bank and our investment advisor. While this is likely to increase to two with the appointment of a backup Treasurer, it is the view of the Executive Director that this is still insufficient coverage and it is therefore recommended that a member of staff be appointed as an authorised signatory. Ideally this would be the Executive Director but if US residence is required then the Director of Finance would be the next logical choice.

Appointing a member of staff as an authorised signatory will not change the roles and responsibilities of the board, all it does is provide for an additional person who can enact the decisions of the board, and provide coverage across a range of circumstances.

**Proposed resolution:** *RESOLVED, to appoint the Executive Director (or the Director of Finance if the Executive Director is ineligible) as an authorised signatory for Chase and Goldman Sachs.*

## Discussion with Goldman Sachs

John Hahn from Goldman Sachs has been invited to meet the board to discuss the issues below and anything else the board wishes to cover:

1. The Investment Policy. The aim is to clarify the specifics of the decision making process, particularly for tranches and any other regular processes.
2. The three verbal authorizations by the Treasurer to confirm this process was suitable and fits with the board's understanding of the Investment Policy:
  - a. moving the working capital funds into a money market (per the board resolution)
  - b. standing direction that when money is deposited it shouldn't sit there, but be put into the money market in the future
  - c. release of the third, timed tranche

## 4. RFPs and contracts

### RFP for IETF New Participants Online Training

An RFP has been issued for online training resources based on the new participants program. This is due to close on 11 September.

## **5. Meetings**

### **Remote rooms**

The planned consultation is due to be released in the week of the board meeting.

### **IETF 126 Vienna**

IETF 126 Vienna went very well. The new team managed the meeting exceptionally well and multiple improvements were noted. The post-meeting survey should be published by the time of the board meeting.

### **IETF 127 San Francisco**

Preparations for IETF 127 San Francisco continue without issue.

### **Disaster/Emergency Recovery Plan**

The Disaster/Emergency Recovery Plan was successfully rolled out for IETF 126 Vienna and was invoked to address a hotel guest stealing equipment. For IETF 127 San Francisco a one-page guide will be provided to all staff, contractors and volunteers involved in the meeting operations.

### **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.
- IETF 130 Vancouver – Booked and announced.
- IETF 131 (Asia) – Due to the originally reserved slot being given away, we are speaking to previous venues in Asia.
- IETF 132 (Europe) – A site visit is planned for early October.
- 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.

## Venue assessment reports

Consultation is underway on the venue assessment reports for Montevideo and Milan. The feedback so far is very positive for both.

## Change of NOC Lead

As [announced to the community](#), the NOC Lead has changed with Joe Clarke taking over. Joe is a long term IETF participant, WG Chair and volunteer and this marks a return to a volunteer-led IETF NOC. Joe contributed a [blog post](#) setting out his plans for the NOC and has already started to issue a [post-meeting report](#) to the community.

# 6. Tools/RPC/RSWG/RSCE

## Monthly reports

The August [monthly Tools report](#) and [monthly RPC report](#) have been posted. The Tools update in particular contains important information on the planning work being undertaken by the team.

## AI Contributions to IETF Tools

AI coding agents are transforming the world of software development and we are already seeing individual large contributions or AI generated code. In preparation for this, the [Contribution Guidelines](#) have been updated to specify how these contributions need to be provided in order for the Tools team to be able to review and safely incorporate them, and without spending the majority of their time reviewing these contributions.

## AI assisted performance analysis

There have been two major performance issues in Datatracker caused by the inadvertent triggering of rarely accessed poorly performing code. Pre-AI this would have taken weeks to months of monitoring and experimentation to diagnose and fix, but with AI assistance this has been reduced to a matter of hours with mitigation applied soon after and a substantive fix applied within two weeks.

## AI mail analysis

During IETF 126 Vienna, as a side project, the Executive Director created a tool to analyse emails sent to IETF mailing lists for AI-generated content, using public APIs and a commercial AI detection service. The IETF Chair is considering how the information generated by this tool might be used more widely.

## AI for general work

Most staff now have any AI account that they can use for their day-to-day work and the results are already feeding through in the areas of data analysis, graphic design and research.

AI accounts have been provided to some ADs for them to experiment with AI assisting them in their work.

## RPC SLA

The community [consultation on a proposed RPC SLA](#) is currently active and ten responses have been received to date. The consultation will be extended to allow those people who were on summer vacation to contribute and it may be followed by a simple survey on some more specific questions.

## 7. IESG/IAB/IRTF/Trust

### Managing Director, IETF Secretariat

The role of “Managing Director, IETF Secretariat” is defined in a number of RFCs and covers specific functions of the Secretariat, all of which were long ago absorbed into the overall work of the IETF LLC rather than being the responsibility of a named individual. The last postholder was Alexa Morris of AMS and after she moved away from the IETF contract, the post has remained empty as the Secretariat was split in two at that point with no single person in charge. While this has no practical impact on the work, it does leave a policy hole and so the Executive Director has appointed himself to the role, a decision within the Executive Director’s authority to make.

### Meeting with the IETF Trust/IETF IPMC at

The Executive Director and IETF Chair met with the IETF Trust/IETF IPMC at IETF 126 Vienna to discuss a number of outstanding matters and agree a way forward:

- Budget. The IETF LLC agreed to provide historical details of the financial requests made by the IETF Trust/IETF IPMC, who indicated that they had likely reached a suitable level of reserves and would reduce further budget requests correspondingly.
- IETF Trust/IETF IPMC/IETF LLC agreement. It was noted that the current agreement between the two parties only covers intellectual property and some areas are missing:

- Funding. It was noted that no funding agreement exists between the IETF LLC and IETF Trust/IETF IPMC. It was agreed that the IETF LLC would propose something and this is being drafted by counsel.
- Standing to sue. It was noted that the transfer from a Trust to an LLC may have limited the ability of IETF LLC to sue the IETF Trust/IETF IPMC for not acting in the best interests of the IETF. It was agreed that the IETF LLC would propose something to be included in the proposed funding agreement.
- BCP Compliance. The IETF Trust/IETF IPMC agreed to review the current I-D to see how the IETF LLC concerns might be addressed.

## 8. Communications/Outreach

### Website content

The project to update the website content and reuse the content from the Tao of the IETF has now completed with the publication of two final pages: [Guide to the IETF standards process](#) and [Being effective in the IETF](#).

One of the key pages [Bringing new work to the IETF](#) was discussed at the IESG retreat and one AD was assigned to review it. Their changes are in the process of being incorporated.

### New staff page

A new [staff page](#) has been published, listing all staff and providing a photograph for those staff that have opted in.

### New insurance page

A new page providing details of [insurance cover](#) for leadership and those taking “official actions” has been published in response to multiple people expressing heightened concern of legal action.

## 9. Fundraising

### 2025 Sponsorship Report

The [2025 Sponsorship Report](#) has been published and distributed to sponsors.

This edition includes case studies highlighting how IETF standards are making a difference in the real world (JMAP and L4S), and takes a step up in presentation from the

previous (and first) edition. The information and content used for these case studies are a core part of the Living Case for Support that the Board requested.

## **10.      Miscellaneous**

Nothing to report.