IETF Venue Assessment Report: Brisbane, Australia

This is a recommendation made by the IETF Executive Director with respect to the appropriateness of Brisbane as a viable location for an IETF meeting, based on the assessment made by the IETF Secretariat of mandatory and important criteria taken from the requirements documented in RFC 8718[1].

Recommendation

This is a **final recommendation** made on 29 June 2021 prior to community feedback.

Based on the assessment below, the recommendation is that Brisbane be approved on a qualified basis (re-visit Travel Advisory Level, Criterion 4.1) as a potential location for an IETF meeting.

Classification system

This assessment uses the following classification system for each test:

Assessment	Indicator
Met	
Uncertain but possible	
Not met	
Unable to assess / not assessed	

Methodology
Each test is applied on a <u>country</u>, <u>city</u> or <u>venue</u> basis. For some, local level exceptions may be considered. Some tests use an external source with no IETF LLC judgement. Others require the IETF LLC to assess multiple sources and make a judgement, as does community feedback. A venue must meet all mandatory criteria to be approved.

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[1] https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc8718

Assessment of individual criteria

CRITERION: City includes one or more venues able to accommodate an IETF meeting (*mandatory[2]*).

#	Test	Assessment	Indicator
1.1	<u>Venue</u>: Possible venues evaluated for size and general location acceptable to hold an IETF meeting	BCEC – Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre	

CRITERION: The level of Internet freedom is acceptable (*mandatory*).

#	Test	Assessment	Indicator
2.1	<u>Country</u>: VPNs can be freely used *Region/City exceptions may override*	The free use of VPNs is **acceptable.[3]** The government could order a company to build a backdoor by a Technical Capability Notice[4], but no warrant canaries have so far indicated this.	

CRITERION: An overwhelming majority of participants who wish to do so can attend (*important[5]*).

#	Test	Assessment	Indicator
3.1	<u>Country</u>: Visa requirements are such that 80% of IETF attendees will be able to obtain a visa without excessive effort or cost	80% of attendees, by country, **can** enter Australia without a visa or through a standard application process at reasonable cost.[6]	

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[2] Corresponds to RFC 8718, section 3.1 Mandatory Criteria
[3] https://www.comparitech.com/vpn/where-are-vpns-legal-banned/
[4] https://corrs.com.au/insights/australias-security-monitor-recommends-changes-to-controversial-anti-encryption-legislation
[5] Corresponds to RFC 8718, section 3.2.1 important Criteria
[6] https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/electronic-travel-authority-601#Eligibility

CRITERION: Travel risks associated with holding an IETF meeting are acceptable (*important*).

#	Test	Assessment	Indicator
4.1	<u>Country</u>: US State Dept travel advisory[7] is at level 1 (*Exercise Normal Precautions*) or level 2 (*Exercise Increased Caution*) and not at level 3 (*Reconsider Travel*) or level 4 (*Do Not Travel*) *Region/City exceptions may override*	US State Dept travel advisory is at level **3, as of 21 April 2021,** which is **not acceptable**.[8]	

CRITERION: Health risks associated with holding an IETF meeting are acceptable (*important*).

#	Test	Assessment	Indicator
5.1	<u>Country</u>: No local disease outbreak or epidemic or regular vaccination requirements[9] [10] for serious diseases other than those we expect all attendees to be vaccinated against (*Currently: Chickenpox, Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, Measles, Mumps, Pertussis, Polio, Rabies, Rubella,Tetanus and Typhoid*) *Region/City exceptions may override*	No local disease outbreaks or epidemics (other than COVID-19) since 2003. Standard vaccination requirements.[11]	

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[7] https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages.html

[8] https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories/australia-travel-advisory.html

[9] https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/vaccination-requirements-and-recommendations-for-international-travelers-and-malaria-situation-per-country-2020-edition

[10] https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list

[11] https://www.who.int/csr/don/archive/country/aus/en/

| 5.2 | City: Air Quality Index[12] in March, July or November is below 50 (*Good*), or below 100 (*Moderate*) or below 150 (*Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups*) for at least 16 days of the month for 2016-2020. | March AQI (PM2.5) is **acceptable.** | |

CRITERION: Human rights risks associated with holding an IETF meeting are acceptable (*important*).

#	Test	Assessment	Indicator
6.1	Country: Women Peace and Security Index[13] score from the Georgetown Institute of Women, Peace and Security is in the top two quintiles (*0.71 or above on a scale of 0 to 1*) *Region/City exceptions may override*	WPS Index score of **.844** is **acceptable.**	
6.2	Country: Safe for LGBT people, researched on an individual basis using multiple sources including Global LGBT Acceptance Index[14], Asher and Lyric Fergusson LGBTQ+ Danger Index[15] and others found at the time of assessment. *Region/City exceptions may override*	Level of LGBT acceptance and safety is **acceptable.**	

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[12] https://aqicn.org/map/world/
[13] https://giwps.georgetown.edu/the-index/
[14] https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/Global-Acceptance-Index-LGBT-Oct-2019.pdf
[15] https://www.asherfergusson.com/lgbtq-travel-safety/

| 6.3 | Country: No significant discrimination or persecution of religious freedoms, researched on an individual basis using multiple sources including World Bank[16], Religious Freedom Report[17] and others found at the time of assessment.

Region/City exceptions may override | Level of religious freedom is **acceptable.** | |

Additional sources including community feedback

- Community feedback announcement[18]
- Community discussions[19]
- Summary of community feedback[20]

Summary

9 tests have been assessed as met; 1 has been assessed as not met and 0 have been assessed as uncertain but possible. 0 tests have not been assessed because an earlier evaluated test was not met.

Date of assessment and recommendation: 29 June 2021

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[16] https://govdata360.worldbank.org/indicators/hd6a18526?indicator=41930&viz=line_chart&years=1975,2018
[17] https://religious-freedom-report.org/#map
[18] https://mailarchive.ietf.org/arch/msg/ietf-announce/Ojr6Fa2K8e6RrnpvV6f7dWrU9ew/
[19] https://mailarchive.ietf.org/arch/msg/mtgvenue/3sH_zNFbkgZ-WYQ-XJstajKQECM/
[20] https://trello.com/b/whq8I098/venue-selection-input