

IETF Venue Assessment Report: Melbourne, Australia

This is a recommendation made by the IETF Executive Director with respect to the appropriateness of Melbourne 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 8718¹.

Recommendation

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

Based on the assessment below, the recommendation is that Melbourne 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	Methodology
Met		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.
Uncertain but possible		
Not met		
Unable to assess / not assessed		

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	At least one suitable venue has been identified.	

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

#	Test	Assessment	Indicator
2.1	<u>Country</u> : VPNs can be freely used <i>Region/City exceptions may override</i>	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	

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 advisory⁷ is at level 1 (<i>Exercise Normal Precautions</i>) or level 2 (<i>Exercise Increased Caution</i>) and not at level 3 (<i>Reconsider Travel</i>) or level 4 (<i>Do Not Travel</i>) <i>Region/City exceptions may override</i>	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 (<i>Currently: Chickenpox, Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, Measles, Mumps, Pertussis, Polio, Rabies, Rubella, Tetanus and Typhoid</i>) <i>Region/City exceptions may override</i>	No local disease outbreaks or epidemics (other than COVID-19) since 2003. Standard vaccination requirements. ¹¹	

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	<u>City</u> : Air Quality Index ¹² in March, July or November is below 50 (<i>Good</i>), or below 100 (<i>Moderate</i>) or below 150 (<i>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</i>) 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	<u>Country</u> : Women Peace and Security Index ¹³ score from the Georgetown Institute of Women, Peace and Security is in the top two quintiles (<i>0.71 or above on a scale of 0 to 1</i>) <i>Region/City exceptions may override</i>	WPS Index score of .844 is acceptable .	
6.2	<u>Country</u> : 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. <i>Region/City exceptions may override</i>	Level of LGBT acceptance and safety is acceptable .	

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	<u>Country</u>: No significant discrimination or persecution of religious freedoms, researched on an individual basis using multiple sources including World Bank¹⁶, Religious Freedom Report¹⁷ and others found at the time of assessment. <i>Region/City exceptions may override</i>	Level of religious freedom is acceptable .	
-----	--	---	--

Additional sources including community feedback

- Community feedback announcement¹⁸
- Community discussions¹⁹
- Summary of community feedback²⁰

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

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_zNFbkqZ-WYQ-XJstajKQECM/

²⁰ <https://trello.com/b/whq8l098/venue-selection-input>