Change Request Forum (CRF) - Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How does the Change Request Forum fit in the annual cycle of Standards Release timeline?

- **Between early July and mid-August:**
  All the Change Requests (CRs) will be published on the CRF at the beginning of the commenting period, in early July. All comments will be reviewed by the Maintenance Working Group (MWG) members and will be taken into account when the MWGs discuss the CRs at their MWG meetings during the third week of August. The role of the MWGs is to analyse the business needs for each CR and to accept or reject the CRs. All accepted CRs will be endorsed by the SWIFT Board committees in September and then sent out for country vote.

- **Mid-September to end of October:**
  The purpose of the country vote is to get global approval for the CRs to be implemented in the following Standards Release. During the country vote period, from mid-September to end of October, additional comments may be made on the CRs and these comments may then affect the way in which countries vote for the accepted and endorsed CRs.

- **As of November:**
  After the country vote, there is a possibility for MT standards implementers to continue commenting on how to/the best ways to implement a change. From then on, the CRF will become a discussion forum for implementers of the MT standards to exchange comments and ideas. Commenting after country vote will not affect the country vote approved status of the CRs.

Q: Will this forum replace the usual email communications?

A: The Change Request Forum is an additional option to view change requests, the usual email communications remain in place.

Q: Will SWIFT distribute the comments to the countries?

A: We do not plan to do so at this stage. It is up to the community to check comments and provide feedback on the platform. To get an overview of all comments, users may download the comments in a spreadsheet format from the platform.

Q: How can I add a comment on an existing comment?

A: There is no option to add a comment on a specific comment that already exists, but you may use the @ sign to tag the previous commenter to start a discussion.

Q: Will SWIFT translate the comments?

A: We will not translate the comments on the forum, all comments should be provided in English.

Q: How can I distinguish between a personal comment and a comment from a country group representative?

A: All comments are considered to be the view of an individual. If it is important to make the distinction, the commenter should make it clear in the comment.

Q: What is the word limit in the comment field?

A: The maximum word count for a comment is 4000 characters.