CONAC's Comments on the Concept Model

Thanks to RSSAC for its 3 years' hard work on improving the governance model of the root server system. The Internet community finally has this Concept Model developed by ICANN based on RSSAC 037 and 038.

As the registry for two Chinese new gTLDs, CONAC would like to take this opportunity to comment on the Concept Model.

1. We advise that the number of representatives and selection mechanism of the Root Server System Governance Board, Root Server System Standing Committee, Root Server Operator Review Panel ("three new groups") should be made clear.

It is noted that the Concept Model only mentioned that representatives of the three new groups shall be selected in accordance with RSSAC 037, however, RSSAC 037 did not explicitly state the number of representatives and related selection mechanism of those three new groups, which may be deemed as a significant portion of the Concept Model, without making it clear, that may undermine the Concept Model.

In addition, the Concept Model mentioned that a "Root Server System Governance Working Group" shall be established, which is responsible for "develop[ing] a final model (henceforth called the "GWG Model) for the RSS", and this Working Group "would be comprised of nine invited representatives from the ccNSO (2), IETF/IAB (2), RSOs (3), and RySG (2) due to their subject matter expertise and three liaisons—one liaison each from the ICANN Board, IANA, and the RZM". So on what basis was the number of representatives from ccNSO, IETF/IAB, RSOs, RySG be determined? Why not have more representatives from these stakeholder groups? It is necessary to provide more concrete rationale on this.

2. With this Concept Model, going forward is it viable to explore the possibility that root servers be deployed in more geographically diversified areas around the globe to cater to geographical diversity and density of population.

Currently, 10 of 13 root servers are deployed in America and are therefore under US jurisdiction. To have an ameliorated Governance Model, is it possible to establish a mechanism to ease concerns from various stakeholders on the status quo, which means that while not changing the present root server operators, as an compromise solution, is it possible to deploy root servers in more geographically diversified areas? By doing so, the root servers may deliver more expeditious service to the global population.