**An Update from the Second Security, Stability and Resiliency of the Domain Name System (DNS) Review Team (SSR2)**

**Author: Alain P. Aina**

The [SSR2 Review Team](https://community.icann.org/display/SSR/SSR2%2BReview) recently had a two-day face-to-face meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa prior to ICANN59. The Review Team is examining security, operational stability and resiliency matters related to ICANN’s coordination of the Internet's system of unique identifiers. Here, Review Team member Alain Aina explains why the SSR2 Review is important and shares highlights from the recent [meeting](https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=64949767).

**Why is the SSR2 Review important?**

The unique identifiers system is critical to the Internet. ICANN, in its role of the technical coordination of the unique identifiers, is a key component of this system. The ICANN organization works with the Internet community to meet its commitments. This work requires some operational elements as well as coordination and engagement with several parties.

The SSR2 Review is assessing how well ICANN is executing its commitment to enhance the operational stability, reliability, resiliency, security and global interoperability of the Internet’s system of unique identifiers. The SSR2 Review will evaluate how well ICANN performs its role, as well as how well the ecosystem is prepared to deal with known and future threats inherent to the normal evolution of the Internet and the unique identifiers system.

**What are some of the areas the Review Team is currently focusing on?**

During the meeting in Johannesburg we finalized five key areas that the Review will focus on. Sub-teams of volunteers from within the Review Team will review:

1. ICANN’s implementation of community recommendations from the first SSR Review (SSR1). [Learn more](https://community.icann.org/display/SSR/Subtopic%2B%231%2B-%2BSSR1%2BReview).
2. The completeness and effectiveness of ICANN’s internal SSR processes. [Learn more](https://community.icann.org/display/SSR/Subtopic%2B%232%2B-%2BICANN%2BSSR).
3. ICANN activities that impact the security and stability of the DNS. [Learn more](https://community.icann.org/display/SSR/Subtopic%2B%233%2B-%2BDNS%2BSSR).
4. ICANN’s strategy to address potential future challenges to the secure and resilient operation of the unique identifiers systems it coordinates. [Learn more](https://community.icann.org/display/SSR/Subtopic%2B%234%2B-%2BFuture%2BChallenges).
5. The impact of the IANA transition on the security of ICANN and the unique identifier systems it coordinates. [Learn more](https://community.icann.org/display/SSR/Subtopic%2B%235%2B-%2BIANA%2BTransition).

In addition, “rapporteurs” for each of the sub-teams were determined during the meeting. Rapporteurs are responsible for sharing updates on the team’s progress each week during the Review Team meeting.

**In your opinion, what were some of the major achievements of this meeting?**

It was great to get the key areas of focus finalized. During the meeting we had a number of breakout sessions which allowed each of the sub-groups to meet to develop their scope and begin working together.

**What are the next steps for the Review Team?**

The sub-groups will work to finalize their scope and work plans. The full Review Team will also continue with fact-finding and assembling materials to help inform the Review. We will then be able to bring our findings together and consult with the ICANN community for its inputs.

**Is there anything else you’d like to highlight from the meeting?**

The commitment from my fellow SSR2 team members throughout the meeting in Johannesburg and others has been great. I also want to highlight the commitment and efficiency of ICANN support staff which helps the Review Team to progress our work.

**How can people get involved in the SSR2 Review?**

You can follow the Review Team meetings live and stay informed of its progress by [becoming an SSR2 observer](https://community.icann.org/display/SSR/Observers). You can also share your expertise and input on SSR issues by sending an email to input-to-ssr2rt@icann.org.

To learn more about the Review, visit the [SSR2 wiki](https://community.icann.org/display/SSR/SSR2%2BReview) page.