

Root Server System Governance Working Group

Teleconference #5 | 30 April 2020 | 22:00 UTC

ATTENDANCE

RSS GWG

Joe Abley	SSAC Representative
Luis Espinoza	ccTLD Registries Representative
Ted Hardie	IAB Representative
Hiro Hotta	RSO Representative
Geoff Huston	IAB Representative
Lito Ibarra	Alternate Liaison from the ICANN Board
Lars-Johan Liman	RSO Representative
Kurt Pritz	gTLD Registries Representative
Naela Sarras	Liaison from the IANA
Tripti Sinha	Liaison from the ICANN Board
Brad Verd	RSO Representative
Duane Wessels	Liaison from Root Zone Maintainer
Hanyu Yang	gTLD Registries Representative

ICANN org

Adiel Akplogan
Paul Hoffman
Becky Nash
Wendy Profit
Carlos Reyes
Mary Wong

Observers

Yaxian Li

Apologies

Peter Janssen ccTLD Registries Representative

MINUTES

Call to Order

Ted Hardie called the teleconference to order at 22:02 UTC and reviewed the proposed agenda. There were no objections to the agenda.

Administration

Carlos Reyes reviewed the draft minutes of teleconference #3 on 2 April 2020. There were no objections to publish the minutes.

ACTION ITEM: Carlos Reyes to publish the approved minutes on the RSS GWG workspace.

Overview of ICANN org Secretariat Functions

Mary Wong provided an overview of the secretariat functions that ICANN org provides to ICANN community groups. This includes professional support in the areas of research, writing, advising, strategic planning, and administration. ICANN org customizes its secretariat function based on the needs of the specific community group. Mary Wong explained that secretariat support for the GAC has evolved over the years, for example.

Ted Hardie asked how ICANN org secretariat functions interact with the IANA functions. Naela Sarras answered, noting that IANA staff strictly perform operational matters and rely on shared resourcing provided by ICANN org in other areas, including secretariat support. Joe Abley asked for clarification about which operational functions of the Root Zone Management System are in the scope of the RSS GWG. Naela Sarras noted that it would be the IANA team that would implement any policy decisions as an outcome of RSS GWG work. Lars-Johan Liman agreed that this is in scope for the RSS GWG.

Kurt Pritz asked about current secretariat support for the RSSAC. Carlos Reyes responded, noting that the support from ICANN org has adapted to the changing requirements of the RSSAC.

DECISION: The RSS GWG agreed that there would have to be a relationship between a future secretariat function and the IANA functions.

“Drawing the Line” Discussion

Ted Hardie introduced the agenda item by referring to Geoff Huston’s comments about questioning the basic assumptions of autonomy, independence, and altruism in the current Root Server System. Joe Abley suggested looking at how diversity has been considered/managed and what is missing, narrowing it down to what makes sense now and what constraints exist. Lars-Johan Liman stated that the RSS GWG should not look at geography, but rather, this should be defined by a future function set up by the RSS GWG modeled after the Strategy, Architecture, and Policy function in RSSAC037.

To avoid confusion with the mandate of the RSS GWG, Ted Hardie proposed the label, “future org”. Ted Hardie stated that the border may be the changes to the Root Server System that are not related to the membership of the set of Root Server Operators. Hanyu Yang suggested that communication between the functions of future org should be accountable and transparent. Kurt Pritz noted that the work of the RSS GWG and the future org should be anchored in security and stability. Ted Hardie stated that a fundamental question for the RSS GWG to consider is the financial relationship between future org and the Root Server Operators. Brad Verd noted that RSSAC037 discussions centered on technical specifications as part of a contractual relationship with funding to address Service Level Agreements.

DECISION: The RSS GWG agreed that the assumption of altruism does not need to be maintained in its work on establishing future org.

Kurt Pritz noted that discussions about sources of funds may have to include the broader ICANN community. Lars-Johan asked the RSS GWG to consider a model that decouples finances from contracts. Ted Hardie noted that precedent exists for zero-cost contracts to be separated from contractual terms for funding.

Any Other Business

There were no additional agenda items.

Adjournment

Ted Hardie adjourned the teleconference at 23:05 UTC.