

Root Server System Governance Working Group

Ted Hardie, Chair

Report to the ICANN Board Technical Committee (BTC)

3 June 2020

Current Status

The RSS GWG convenes every other week. Its first seven teleconferences have focused on reviewing the accepted source documents and exploring the scope of its mandate. To distinguish between its work and the work of any future structure established through this process, the RSS GWG refers to its expected output as “future organization”.

In order to understand how other ICANN community groups interact with existing functions identified in RSSAC037, the RSS GWG requested briefings from ICANN org. The Policy Development Support and Finance teams briefed the RSS GWG about secretariat and financial functions, respectively. The PTI team also briefed the RSS GWG about its structure, external relationships, and work in delivering the IANA functions.

Recent Decisions

Since February 2020, the RSS GWG has made the following decisions:

Administration

- The RSS GWG elected Ted Hardie as chair.
- Hiro Hotta, Lars-Johan Liman, and Brad Verd will inform the RSSAC of RSS GWG work.
- With the assistance of the RSS GWG support team, Ted Hardie will develop reports to the BTC and provide them to the RSS GWG for awareness before submitting them to the BTC.

Design

- The RSS GWG accepted RSSAC037, RSSAC038, the Concept Paper, the RSS GWG charter, SAC106, and RSSAC042 as source documents for its model.
- The RSS GWG agreed that there should be a relationship between the future organization, the secretariat function, and the IANA functions.
- The RSS GWG agreed that it does not need to maintain the assumption of altruism in designing its model.
- The RSS GWG agreed that the Strategy, Architecture, and Policy Function (SAPF) is the function which it will describe first. The SAPF should have the ability to evolve root service and to evolve itself. Its design may be significantly broader and different to the existing model.

Next Steps

The RSS GWG will continue its regular cadence of teleconferences, exploring the interfaces between functions and identifying gaps in the RSSAC037 model. The RSS GWG will consider multiple design options for the SAPF as its discussions continue in the coming weeks and as writing begins in the coming months.