

Root Server System Governance Working Group

Teleconference #17 | 15 October 2020 | 22:00 UTC

ATTENDANCE

RSS GWG

Luis Diego Espinoza	ccTLD Registries Representative
Ted Hardie	IAB Representative
Hiro Hotta	RSO Representative
Geoff Huston	IAB Representative
Lito Ibarra	Alternate Liaison from the ICANN Board
Peter Janssen	ccTLD Registries Representative
Lars-Johan Liman	RSO Representative
Kurt Pritz	gTLD Registries Representative
Kim Davies	Liaison from the IANA
Tripti Sinha	Liaison from the ICANN Board
Brad Verd	RSO Representative
Duane Wessels	Liaison from the Root Zone Maintainer

ICANN org

Paul Hoffman
Wendy Profit
Carlos Reyes
Mary Wong

Apologies

Joe Abley	SSAC Representative
Hanyu Yang	gTLD Registries Representative

MINUTES

Call to Order

Ted Hardie called the teleconference to order at 22:03 UTC and reviewed the proposed agenda. There were no objections to the agenda.

Administration

Carlos Reyes reviewed the draft minutes of teleconference #16 on 1 October 2020. There were no objections to publishing the minutes.

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

Proposed MoU/Lol

Ted Hardie reviewed the proposed Memorandum of Understanding/Letter of Intent (MoU/Lol) from the Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC). Ted Hardie noted that RSS GWG should accept the proposed MoU/Lol as an input document and answer the two questions from RSSAC. Ultimately, however, it is up to the structures of NewOrg, specifically the Strategy, Architecture, and Policy Function (SAPF), to develop and execute initial agreements with the Root Server Operators (RSOs). RSS GWG should also consider outlining a process for revising those agreements.

Geoff Huston highlighted the three options for conformity and suggested that RSS GWG may want to endorse one option. Lars-Johan Liman disagreed, noting that the details should be left to the SAPF and Public Root Services (PRS). SAPF could set the framework, and PRS could negotiate with RSOs. Kurt Pritz agreed with the approach and also supported having RSS GWG specify the process. Ted Hardie noted that an MoU and Lol are similar. Geoff Huston emphasized that the important aspect is ensuring RSOs are held to account.

Brad Verd highlighted the remediation section, which provides timeframes for RSOs to meet in the event of poor performance, catastrophic technical shutdown, and rogue behavior. Brad Verd affirmed the commitment of RSOs for more accountability. Paul Hoffman mentioned the ongoing RSSAC Work Party defining rogue RSO behavior. Ted Hardie also observed the request for legal analysis. Tripti Sinha stressed that there should be standards and punitive consequences for RSO nonconformity.

Financial Considerations

Geoff Huston stated that funding should be made available to all RSOs. Brad Verd noted that RSSAC037 also proposed responsibilities for RSOs that accept funding. Kurt Pritz asked how much funding might be needed, noting that at a certain threshold it becomes a material issue for the ICANN community and the Empowered Community. Ted Hardie cited the example of the IETF LLC agreement as a potential model for RSS GWG to consider. Ted Hardie also noted the need for information about anticipated costs. The NewOrg proposal should call for estimates, and RSS GWG should determine if this is something it wants to do or leave to NewOrg.

Geoff Huston said more information may be needed. One approach is to consider the cost of query volume. This would be service-based funding. The other approach is needs-based funding. There are difficult policy and political issues to address. Luis Diego Espinoza asked about the cost of providing root service. Paul Hoffman noted that the financial discussions should refer back to the service level expectations and service level agreements proposed in RSSAC037. Brad Verd agreed that there should be strings attached to funding. Brad Verd also stated that the budget for the ICANN managed root server is public. Kurt Pritz noted the range of funding requirements could be quite broad.

Geoff Huston noted his preference for needs-based funding, but this could be too intrusive of an exercise without any boundaries. Lars-Johan Liman stated that each RSO has different models for operating and different ambitions. Ted Hardie summarized the discussion: Funding from PRS should be available on a non-discriminatory basis to every RSO per a service-based model. Lars-Johan Liman expressed support for auditing. Geoff Huston proposed a third award-based model of funding. This approach removes uncertainty for PRS and ICANN but may not remove financial stress for some RSOs. Ted Hardie tasked a writing team with picking an option and elaborating on it.

Any Other Business

There were no additional agenda items.

Adjournment

Ted Hardie adjourned the teleconference at 22:58 UTC.