

Root Server System Governance Working Group

Teleconference #23 | 14 January 2020 | 22:00 UTC

ATTENDANCE

RSS GWG

Kim Davies	Liaison from the IANA
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
Tripti Sinha	Liaison from the ICANN Board
Brad Verd	RSO Representative
Duane Wessels	Liaison from the Root Zone Maintainer
Suzanne Woolf	SSAC Representative
Hanyu Yang	gTLD Registries Representative

ICANN org

Adiel Akplogan
Xavier Calvez
Paul Hoffman
David Olive
Wendy Profit
Carlos Reyes
Mary Wong

MINUTES

Call to Order

Ted Hardie called the teleconference to order at 22:04 UTC and reviewed the proposed agenda. There were no objections to the agenda.

Administration

Carlos Reyes reviewed the draft minutes of teleconference #22 on 17 December 2020. There were no objections to publishing the minutes.

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

Cost of Funding the Root Server System

Ted Hardie introduced the topic by referencing the discussion on the mailing list. Geoff Huston noted that it is difficult to talk about a cost model without some understanding of magnitude. Overwhelming the existing Root Server Operators (RSOs) to the point of financial crisis may lead to new RSOs with a political agenda. The essential attributes of diversity, independence, and autonomy would be subverted. Engaging an intermediary to understand confidential and sensitive financial data of RSO business operations could help the RSS GWG understand the extent of funding for the Root Server System (RSS). This information would give the ICANN Board more confidence in the work of the RSS GWG.

Ted Hardie noted that there are RSS GWG members who have an understanding of RSO business operations. The RSS GWG has not discussed this particular issue because of the assumption that NewOrg would undertake this work. However, the RSS GWG will need to demonstrate that NewOrg is sufficient without being overbearing. Kurt Pritz stated that it is important for the RSS GWG to communicate the rationale for NewOrg and the proposed Financial Function of a grant program managed by Public Root Services (PRS). Namely, this model preserves the robustness of the RSS. Over time, this model may require adjustments.

Luis Diego Espinoza reiterated the need for an understanding of magnitude. Lars-Johan Liman endorsed the idea of asking RSOs about the cost of providing root service and advised that the question should include a basis for the estimation. Suzanne Woolf agreed with the discussion. Geoff Huston stated that this exercise would provide an understanding of the degree to which the business models of the RSOs are keeping pace with the function of the RSOs.

Ted Hardie summarized the discussion and clarified that the request is for an order of magnitude of support not cost. Paul Hoffman noted that there are two views of when to conduct the study: The RSS GWG can do it now, or PRS can do it later. Ted Hardie stressed that the exercise intends to assure the Internet community that the RSS GWG is designing NewOrg to the appropriate scale of expenditure.

ACTION ITEM: Ted Hardie to work with RSO representatives to approach RSSAC and identify an intermediary to conduct an exercise that determines the scale of likely funding.

Resourcing for PRS

Geoff Huston observed that NewOrg currently envisions the RSOs maintaining a relationship with PRS and not ICANN. Kurt Pritz agreed that this section should be reviewed to ensure that the ICANN community would understand it.

Rationale for RSO Funding

Carlos Reyes noted that Luis Diego Espinoza had a comment about the two-year requirement for RSOs to give notice for joining or leaving the proposed grant program. Ted Hardie proposed leaving the requirement to allow for broader feedback during community review. Lars-Johan

Liman reminded the RSS GWG that the Financial Function should feature sufficient time for the ICANN budget process.

Next Steps

Duane Wessels reviewed the NewOrg document, which merges the PRS and SAPF papers and resolves some comments in the previous versions. Ted Hardie asked the RSS GWG to review the NewOrg document.

Any Other Business

There were no additional agenda items.

Adjournment

Ted Hardie adjourned the teleconference at 22:59 UTC.