Root Server System Governance Working Group

Teleconference #32 | 17 June 2021 | 22:00 UTC

ATTENDANCE

RSS GWG

Kim Davies

Ted Hardie

Hiro Hotta

Geoff Huston

Liaison from the IANA

IAB Representative

RSO Representative

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
Suzanne Woolf SSAC Representative

RSOs

Robert Carolina
Wes Hardaker
Andy Kimble
Matt Larson
Tom Miglin
Jeff Osborn
Ken Renard
Karl Reuss

Ryan Stephenson Kevin Wright

ICANN org

Sam Eisner

Paul Hoffman

Andrew McConachie

David Olive

Carlos Reyes

Ozan Sahin

Steve Sheng Mary Wong

Excused

Hanyu Yang gTLD Registries Representative

Absent

Luis Diego Espinoza ccTLD Registries Representative

Duane Wessels Liaison from the RZM

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 #31 on 3 June 2021. Ted Hardie suggested adding a heading to denote the report of the executive session during teleconference #31. There were no objections to publishing the minutes as amended.

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

Wes Hardaker encouraged all participants to understand all perspectives during the discussion.

Carlos Reyes read the list of participants and their affiliations.

Overview of Current GWG Proposal

Ted Hardie noted the joint aim of the GWG and Root Server Operators (RSOs) is to build a governance model that supports the root server system (RSS) as a stable and evolving part of the Internet. Ted Hardie highlighted the affiliate structure of Public Root Services (PRS), noting the examples of Public Technical Identifiers within ICANN and the IETF LLC within the Internet Society (ISOC). The IETF LLC provides focus within ISOC. This same structure within ICANN intends to focus PRS on root service. The checks and balances in this model are different from the RSSAC037 model. Ted Hardie explained that the governance model needs authority at two different timescales.

Overview of Current RSO Feedback

Lars-Johan Liman summarized the current feedback of the RSOs. The RSOs are concerned about:

- 1. Loss of checks and balances
- 2. Loss of RSO independence
- 3. ICANN affiliate structure
- 4. Lack of details

Lars-Johan Liman clarified for Ted Hardie that the GWG is the first time all RSOs have experienced representation by a group of RSOs. Lars-Johan Liman also stressed the importance of preventing capture of an RSO or of the entire RSS.

Brad Verd reiterated the point that RSSAC037 was written with the expectation that RSS governance would exist within the ICANN multistakeholder model. Brad Verd noted that the RSOs are working on a list of success criteria for RSS governance and are also exploring the Supporting Organization model in more detail.

Robert Carolina clarified that the three RSO representatives in the GWG cannot bind the other RSOs. Ted Hardie asked how the GWG should engage with the RSOs. Jeff Osborn stated that the Internet Systems Consortium has zero representation on the GWG. Robert Carolina suggested that the list of success criteria for RSS governance could help determine a way forward. Wes Hardaker agreed that involving all RSOs is important.

Discussion of Next Steps

Ted Hardie noted that the work of the GWG is always available for review. Ted Hardie also explained that the GWG charter specifies how votes are allocated if consensus is not achieved. Ted Hardie further elaborated that achieving consensus may take more time because of input from other stakeholders.

Wes Hardaker suggested more joint meetings between the GWG and RSOs would be beneficial. Robert Carolina stated that the RSOs want to help the GWG develop a proposal that has the most chances of success. Suzanne Woolf encouraged the participants to understand the different perspectives on capture and risk.

Ted Hardie asked about a timeline for the RSO list of success criteria for RSS governance. Brad Verd noted that the RSOs are aligned and need to develop a document. Ted Hardie encouraged

GWG members to inform their communities about expected changes to the GWG proposal. Lars-Johan Liman suggested waiting to schedule the next joint meeting until the RSOs make more progress. Brad Verd estimated mid-to-late September 2021.

Any other business

There were no additional agenda items.

Adjournment

Ted Hardie adjourned the teleconference at 22:58 UTC.