

Root Server System Governance Working Group

Teleconference 62 | Thursday, 24 August 2023 | 22:00 UTC

ATTENDANCE

RSS GWG

John Augenstein	RSOs
Luis Diego Espinoza	ccTLD registries
Wes Hardaker	RSOs
Hans Petter Holen	RSOs
Hiro Hotta	RSOs
Geoff Huston	IAB
Lars-Johan Liman	RSOs
Christian Kaufmann	Liaison from the ICANN Board
Peter Koch	ccTLD registries
Ken Renard	RSOs
Jim Reid	IAB
Karl Reuss	RSOs
Brad Verd	RSOs
Duane Wessels	Liaison from the RZM
Suzanne Woolf	SSAC

Excused

Kim Davies	Liaison from the IANA
Ashwin Rangan	RSOs

Absent

Edmon Chung	Liaison from the ICANN Board (Alternate)
Jeff Osborn	RSOs
Kurt Pritz	gTLD registries
Barbara Schleckser	RSOs
Paul Vixie	RSOs
Hanyu Yang	gTLD registries

Observers

Robert Carolina	RSOs
David Conrad	RSOs
Joseph Hayes	RSOs
Erum Welling	RSOs

ICANN staff support

Carlos Reyes

MINUTES

Call to Order

Brad Verd 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 61. There were no objections to publishing the draft minutes.

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

Separation and Balance of Powers

Brad Verd read candidate principle 1.80 about flexibility in the root server system governance structure (RSS GS) and the various comments from the GWG. Robert Carolina explained that it could be a mistake to elevate the status of the principles. Lars-Johan Liman agreed because it must be possible to change the principles over time. Wes Hardaker noted that the principles are not absolute and change must be possible. Peter Koch suggested including who controls the change in the interpretation notes. Robert Carolina elaborated that flexibility applies to change within the RSS GS initiated by its participants and not external actors. However, Wes Hardaker encouraged external input when changes to the RSS GS occur.

Brad Verd stated that candidate principle 1.90 about discouraging unilateral decisions received unanimous support.

Brad Verd noted that candidate principle 1.100 about divergence had one comment. Luis Diego Espinoza proposed eliminating the candidate principle. Brad Verd said that even though the candidate principle might be obvious, it was important to document it.

Brad Verd asked Jim Reid to expand on his comment on candidate principle 1.100.4 about the publication of divergent views. Jim Reid said that the candidate principle could be impractical to implement. Lars-Johan Liman said that the candidate principle is intended to avoid situations where discussions happen without transparency. Robert Carolina interpreted the candidate principle to encourage alternative viewpoints and not about transparency. Peter Koch agreed.

Brad Verd read candidate principle 1.101 about obstructive dissent. Robert Carolina interpreted the comment from Jeff Osborn to suggest that there must be a mechanism to end debate within the RSS GS. Erum Welling and Geoff Huston proposed edits to the revised candidate principle. Jim Reid stated that elaborate procedures depart from the purpose of the GWG. Robert Carolina suggested that a more detailed discussion about consensus will likely take place in the future. Jim Reid reiterated a desire for a practical definition of consensus. Geoff Huston observed that the candidate principle is really about conduct in the RSS GS and proposed a reference to Robert's Rules of Order. Jim Reid agreed with the sensible solution.

Brad Verd reviewed candidate principle 1.110 about direct participation of RSOs in the RSS GS. Robert Carolina proposed clarifying text about how RSS GS procedures must enable RSO participation if an RSO chooses to participate. Brad Verd concluded the discussion to continue with the agenda.

Any Other Business

Brad Verd described a proposed approach for reviewing the interpretation notes in three working groups with the goal of closing discussion on the principles after ICANN78. Geoff Huston asked about the expected output of the three working groups and suggested synthesizing the principles instead. Wes Hardaker and Robert Carolina agreed.

The GWG reviewed the draft schedule of four work sessions planned for ICANN78. Robert Carolina asked if the work sessions could be dispersed across the week. Brad Verd and Wes Hardaker explained the challenges of scheduling. Jim Reid supported the least conflicted approach.

Adjournment

Brad Verd adjourned the teleconference at 23:01 UTC.