

Root Server System Governance Working Group
Teleconference 74 | Thursday, 11 July 2024 | 22:00 UTC

ATTENDANCE

RSS GWG

Edmon Chung	Liaison from the ICANN Board (Alternate)
Luis Diego Espinoza	ccTLD registries
Hiro Hotta	RSOs
Geoff Huston	IAB
Lars-Johan Liman	RSOs
Jeff Osborn	RSOs
Ken Renard	RSOs
Brad Verd	RSOs
Duane Wessels	Liaison from the RZM
Suzanne Woolf	SSAC

Excused

Kim Davies	Liaison from the IANA
Wes Hardaker	RSOs
Christian Kaufmann	Liaison from the ICANN Board
Peter Koch	ccTLD registries
Ashwin Rangan	RSOs
Karl Reuss	RSOs

Absent

John Augenstein	RSOs
Hans Petter Holen	RSOs
Kurt Pritz	gTLD registries
Jim Reid	IAB
Barbara Schleckser	RSOs
Paul Vixie	RSOs
Hanyu Yang	gTLD registries

Observers

Robert Carolina	RSOs
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ICANN staff support

Carlos Reyes

MINUTES

Call to Order

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

Brad Verd noted that the 25 July teleconference will be canceled due to IETF 120.

Administration

The RSS GWG reviewed the draft minutes of teleconference 73. Paul Vixie and John Crain abstained from the vote. There were no objections to publishing the draft minutes.

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

What are the stages to achieve a turnkey model?

Picking up from the last teleconference, Brad Verd explained that the discussion was now focused on how the RSS GS can evolve itself, which is one of the principles. Robert Carolina emphasized that charter amendments to the RSS GS should require approval of the Stakeholder Communities and not just a decision of the RSS GS Council. Geoff Huston stated that it should not be up to the RSS GWG to determine the thresholds for approval.

Within the “bootstrapping” phase, Brad Verd raised the topic of decision making. Geoff Huston encouraged the RSS GWG to pursue a more specific term such as simple majority rather than consensus. Robert Carolina noted the challenge of balancing the RSOs with the other Stakeholder Communities in the context of voting. Wes Hardaker recalled the ICANN80 discussions of requiring a high threshold for decisions. Suzanne Woolf stated that there may be a need for more structured decision making when not doing something is an unacceptable outcome. Geoff Huston elaborated that a supermajority requirement ensures no one entity can push something through; there has to be a common source of agreement. Robert Carolina proposed a defined quorum and voting threshold of two-thirds, which Geoff Huston supported.

Kurt Pritz suggested that this level of specificity belongs in a later stage. Consensus-based decision making allows the RSS GS Council to learn from its experience and then define the thresholds for voting. Samantha Eisner agreed that Geoff Huston and Kurt Pritz made important points which require balancing. Peter Koch suggested that decisions should be consensus-driven and supermajority voting only to break ties. Robert Carolina disagreed with the tie-breaking mechanism and suggested that the RSS GWG could learn from experiences across the ICANN community. Brad Verd expressed a concern about the RSS GS being unable to evolve if it gets stuck. Geoff Huston proposed a compromise of decision making by consensus and allowing for one RSS GS Council member to request a two-thirds supermajority vote as a fallback option. The RSS GS Council would define supermajority voting.

Paul Vixie stated that RSS governance will be heavily scrutinized, and the RSS GWG members’ diligence is admirable. Robert Carolina suggested that the Stakeholder Communities should have to approve changes to the decision-making mechanism. Geoff Huston noted that voting thresholds could be defined at the outset so that it is not a change. Wes Hardaker stated that it is necessary to define the decision-making mechanism including potential voting thresholds now because this sets the groundwork. Building on Geoff Huston’s proposal, Wes Hardaker encouraged defining supermajority as at least 75%. Robert Carolina outlined scenarios related to absolute and quorate percentages of the RSS GS Council. Geoff Huston stressed the

importance of the RSS GWG designing clear decision-making processes for the RSS GS Council.

Any Other Business

There were no additional agenda items.

Adjournment

Brad Verd adjourned the teleconference at 22:59 UTC.