

# Root Server System Governance Working Group Update

Ted Hardie, Chair



Joint Meeting: RSSAC and RSS GWG  
Thursday, 8 October 2020 | 22:00 UTC

# Agenda

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1. RSS GWG update
  - a. RSS GWG composition
  - b. RSS GWG discussions
  - c. NewOrg proposal diagram
  - d. PRS
  - e. SAPF
  
2. Next steps

# RSS GWG Composition

Meets every other week since late February 2020

Luis Diego Espinoza Sanchez	ccTLD registries (via Country Code Names Supporting Organization)
Peter Janssen	ccTLD registries (via Country Code Names Supporting Organization)
Kurt Pritz	gTLD registries (via Registries Stakeholder Group)
Hanyu Yang	gTLD registries (via Registries Stakeholder Group)
Ted Hardie (Chair)	Internet Architecture Board
Geoff Huston	Internet Architecture Board
Hiro Hotta	Root Server Operators
Lars-Johan Liman	Root Server Operators
Brad Verd	Root Server Operators
Joe Abley (departing soon)	Security and Stability Advisory Committee
Tripti Sinha	ICANN Board
Lito Ibarra	ICANN Board
Naela Sarras (Kim Davies)	IANA
Duane Wessels	Root Zone Maintainer

The RSS GWG has focused its discussions on its emerging proposal, “**New Organization**” (**NewOrg**).

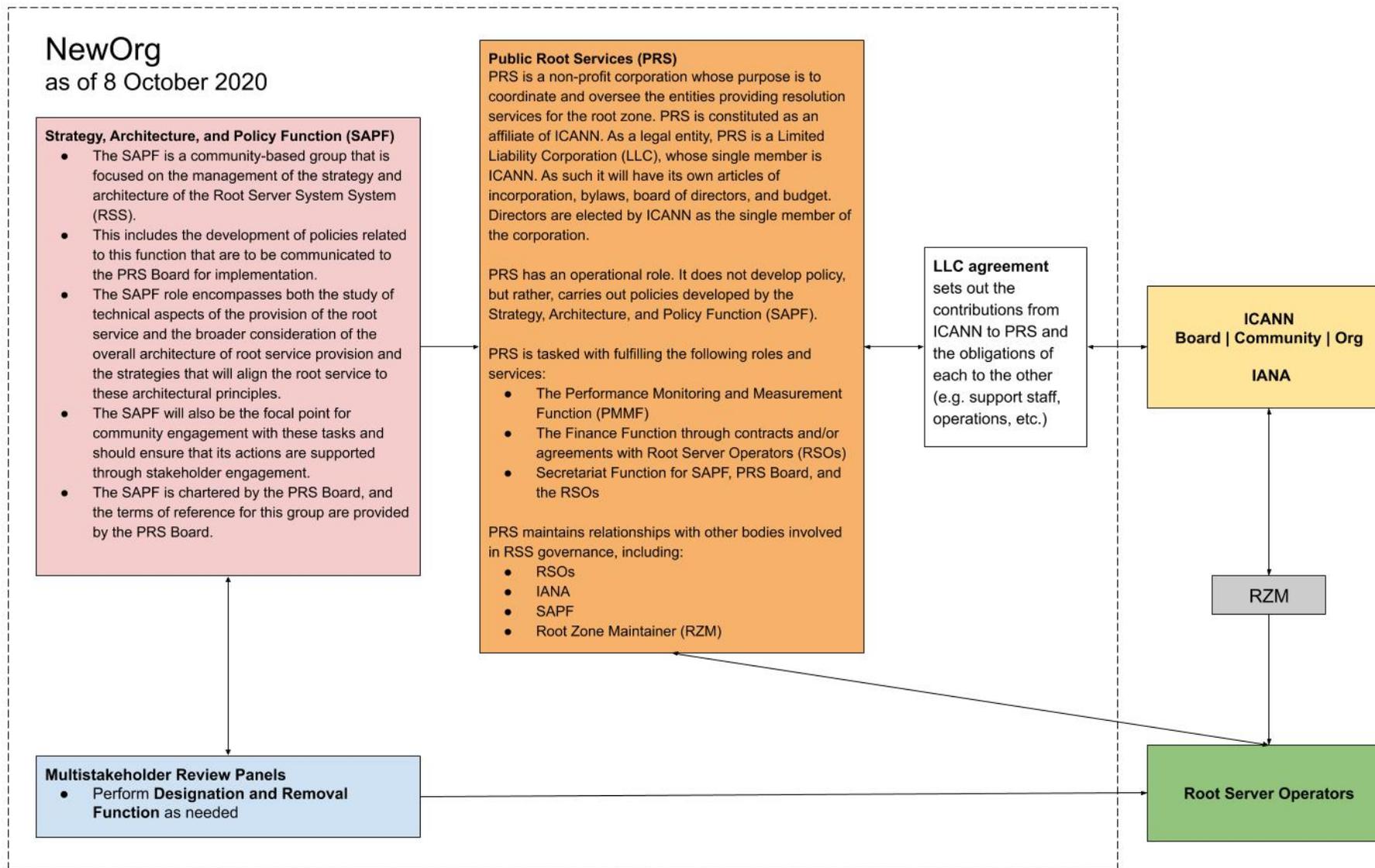
Specifically, the RSS GWG is discussing the:

- ⦿ community composition of the **Strategy, Architecture, and Policy Function (SAPF)**
- ⦿ structure of **Public Root Services (PRS)**
- ⦿ relationship between **PRS and ICANN**

Writing teams developed papers for each topic. The RSS GWG is reviewing these papers and identifying gaps for future discussion.

**This is work in progress.**

# NewOrg Proposal Diagram



The RSS GWG has broadly agreed that:

- ⦿ PRS is a non-profit corporation whose purpose is to coordinate and oversee the entities providing resolution services for the root zone.
- ⦿ PRS has an operational role. It does not develop policy, but rather, carries out policies developed by the SAPF.
- ⦿ PRS is constituted as an affiliate of ICANN, modeled after the relationship between PTI and ICANN.
  - As a legal entity, PRS is a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC), whose single member is ICANN. As such it will have its own articles of incorporation, bylaws, board of directors, and budget. Directors are elected by ICANN as the single member of the corporation.
- ⦿ PRS is tasked with fulfilling the following roles and services:
  - The Performance Monitoring and Measurement Function (PMMF),
  - The Finance Function through contracts and/or agreements with Root Server Operators (RSOs),
  - Secretariat Function for SAPF, PRS Board, and the RSOs.
- ⦿ PRS maintains relationships with other bodies involved in RSS governance: RSOs, PTI, SAPF, and RZM.

The RSS GWG has broadly agreed that:

- ⦿ SAPF is a community-based group that is focused on the management of the strategy and architecture of the RSS.
- ⦿ This includes the development of policies related to this function that are to be communicated to the PRS Board for implementation.
  - The SAPF role encompasses both the study of technical aspects of the provision of the root service and the broader consideration of the overall architecture of root service provision and the strategies that will align the root service to these architectural principles.
- ⦿ SAPF will also be the focal point for community engagement with these tasks and should ensure that its actions are supported through stakeholder engagement.
- ⦿ SAPF is chartered by the PRS Board, and the terms of reference for this group are provided by the PRS Board.
  - These terms of reference may be amended by the PRS Board according to the processes adopted by NewOrg.

# Next Steps

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- ⦿ The RSS GWG will consider how to integrate the SAPF and PRS papers.
- ⦿ Elaborate the relationship between NewOrg and ICANN, focused work on financial considerations in the PRS paper.
- ⦿ The RSS GWG intends to provide a document for ICANN org feedback by the end of October for ongoing discussion.
- ⦿ The RSS GWG will also review and update its work plan.
- ⦿ The RSS GWG will also participate in the Joint Meeting of the ICANN Board and RSSAC during ICANN69 on Wednesday, 14 October 2020.



**RSS GWG Workspace**  
**<https://go.icann.org/rssgwgworkspace>**