

Root Server System Governance Working Group Update

Ted Hardie, Chair



Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and RSSAC with RSS GWG
Wednesday, 14 October 2020 | 12:00 UTC

Agenda

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 |

RSS GWG Discussions

The RSS GWG discussion has envisioned a set of related bodies which are collectively the “**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.

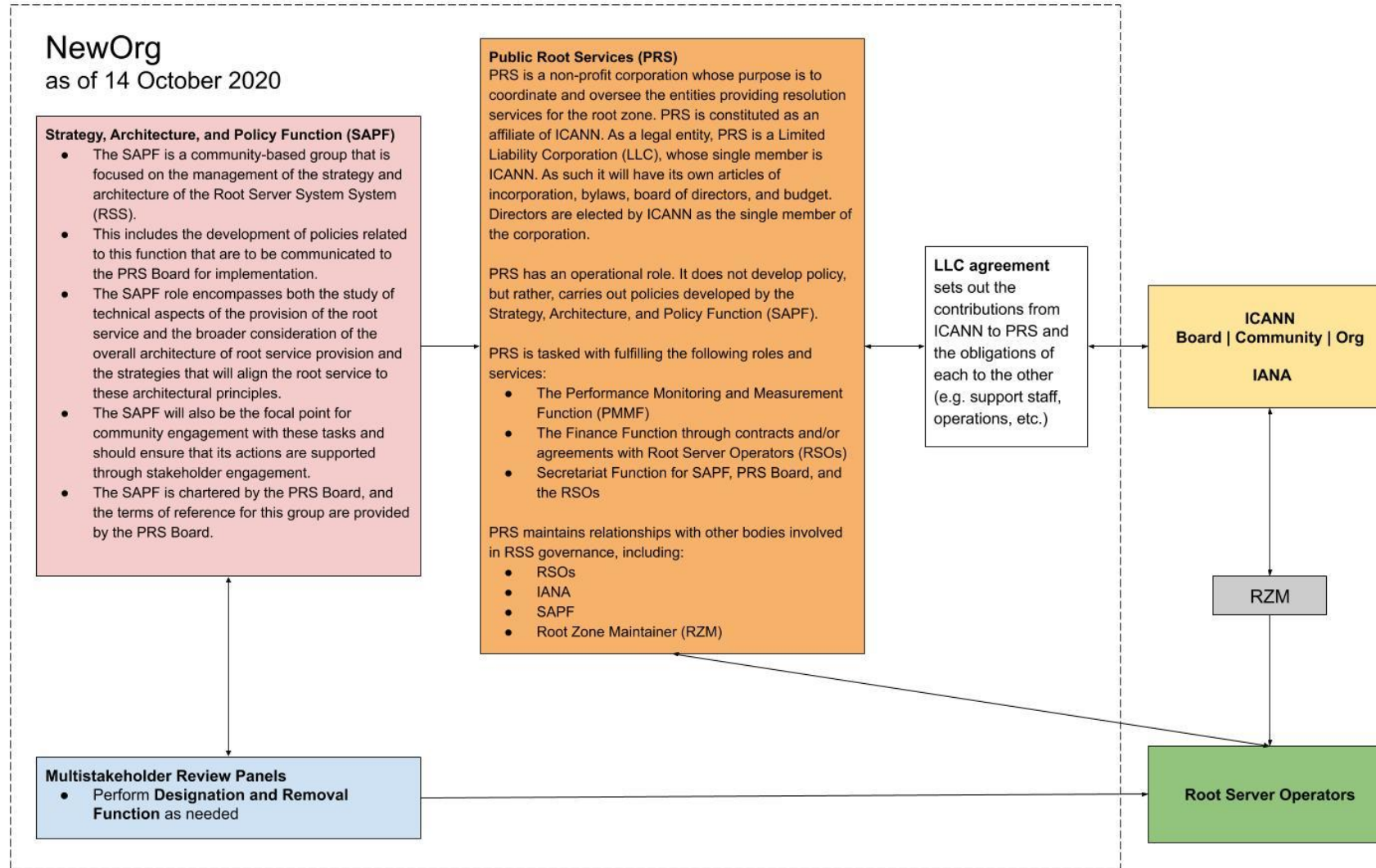
The RSS GWG has broadly agreed that:

- PRS is constituted as an affiliate of ICANN, loosely 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 formally appointed by ICANN as the single member of the corporation, though likely nominated by multiple groups.
- As an affiliate of ICANN, PRS is a non-profit corporation specifically dedicated to coordinating and sustaining 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 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.

NewOrg Proposal Diagram



Next Steps

- The RSS GWG will consider how to integrate the SAPF and PRS papers.
- The RSS GWG will elaborate the relationship between NewOrg and ICANN, focusing work on financial considerations in the PRS paper.
- The RSS GWG intends to provide a document for ICANN org, including legal, feedback by the end of October for ongoing discussion.
- The RSS GWG will also review and update its work plan.



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