Registry Service Provider Technical Handbook

Registry Service Provider Evaluation Program Handbook: First IRT Review Session

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ICANN

Agenda

- Overview of the RSP Evaluation Program

- Previous Sessions Summary

- Introduction to the Registry Service Provider (RSP) Handbook

- Recent changes

- Current comments

- AOB

Overview: Why are we doing this?

Recommendation 6.2 of the GNSO's *Final Report on the new gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process***:**

- The Working Group reviewed the fact that where a single RSP provided registry services for multiple TLD applications in the 2012 application round, *that RSP was subject to duplicative evaluation and testing (in some cases hundreds of times).*

- The Working Group agreed that this **duplicative evaluation and testing could be reduced by establishing a program in which RSPs are evaluated in advance** of an application round opening.
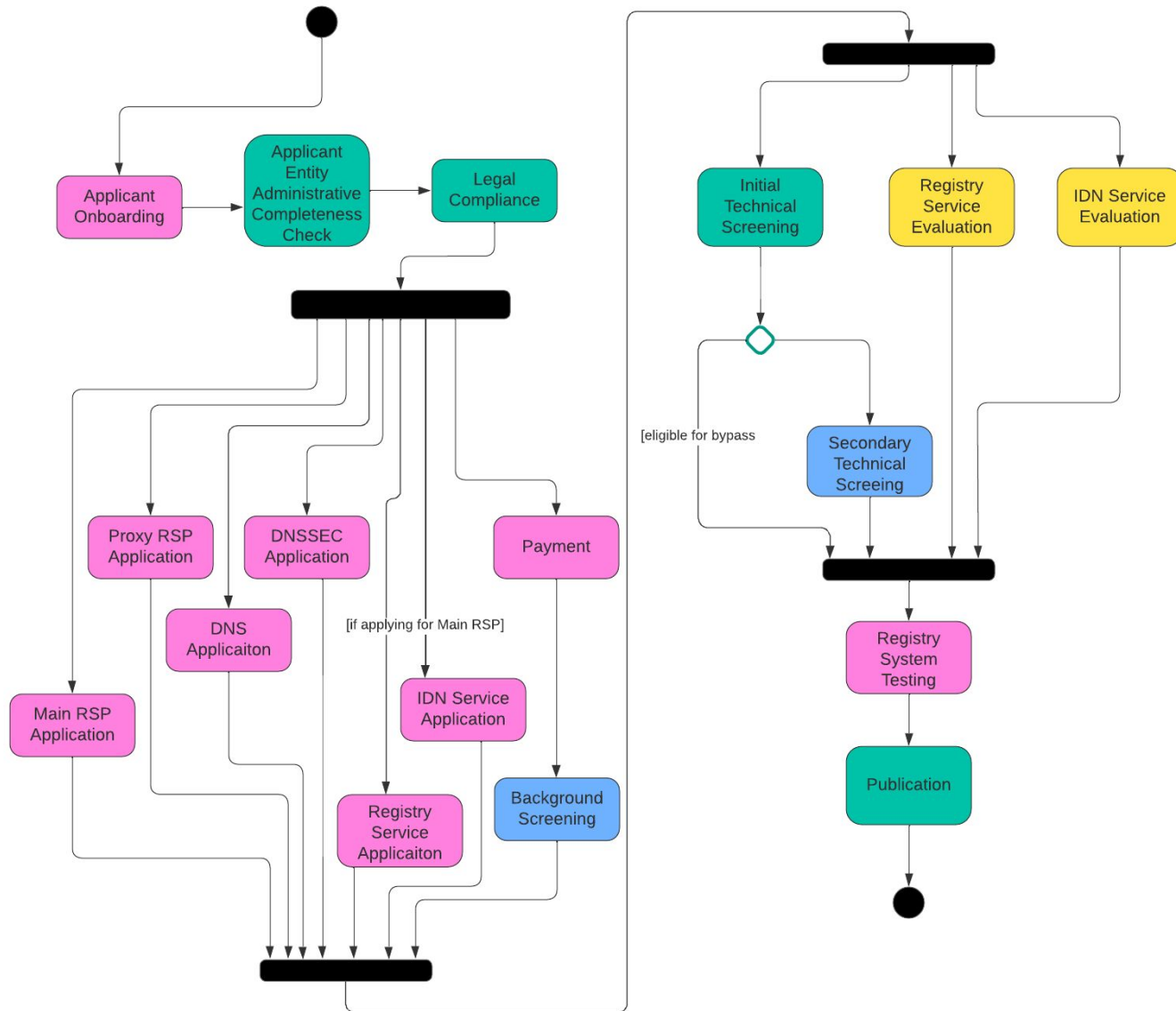
Overview: The RSP Evaluation Program

- Multiple RSP Types:
  - Main RSP
  - DNS RSP
  - DNSSEC RSP
  - Proxy RSP

- Application for additional registry services

- Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) services

Org's interaction with the new gTLD application process

- Once the gTLD application window closes, ICANN org will provide each evaluated RSP with the list of gTLD applications and the corresponding categories of RSP for which they have been identified.

- Evaluated RSPs will confirm to ICANN org which gTLD applications it will support and for which it has enough capacity.
  - If a gTLD applicant elected an evaluated RSP, but the evaluated RSP is unwilling to support it, the applicant will be notified to update their application.

RSP Portal Workflow

Previous Sub-Track Sessions

- Sessions occurred on 28 November 2023 and 12 December 2023.

- In those sessions, the technical questionnaires were reviewed for:
  - Main RSP

  - DNS RSP

  - DNSSEC RSP

  - Proxy RSP

  - Application for additional Registry Services

  - Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) Services

Changes to Questionnaires

- Incorporated many editorial suggestions to clarify questions.

- Security certification question was changed to a yes/no attestation.

- As suggested by the sub-track team review, the 2012 AGB was used as a guide to determine which answers will be made public.

  - Only the answers of successfully evaluated RSPs will be made public.

  - All answers to yes/no questions will be made public because an answer of "no" could result in a failed evaluation. An explanation for "no" is in the public interest.

  - All answers containing textual information or attachments that will **NOT** be made public are indicated.

Contents of the RSP Handbook

- Contents
  - Introduction and Overview of the RSP Evaluation Program
  - Program Timelines
  - Eligibility, Terms & Conditions, Privacy Policy, etc…
  - Using the RSP Portal to Submit Applications
  - Fees and Payments
  - Requirements of the Panelists
  - Description of Registry System Testing (RST)
  - Technical Questionnaires *

*previously reviewed in the sub-track meetings

Recent Changes Since Submittal to IRT

- Note that the RSP Portal will be enforcing Multi-Factor Authentication.

- Service Level Targets will be measured in calendar days, not US Business Days.

- Conflicts of Interest guidelines for panelists synchronized with the guidelines recently published in the New gTLD Program: Next Round Applicant Guidebook.

Current Comments

- During sub-track review, an edit was suggested for the list of regions from which RSPs are, in order to conduct external monitoring of their services.
  - If an appropriate list of ICANN regions relevant to network monitoring could be found, it was to be used.
  - None exist, therefore the suggested edit has been accepted.
  - If a suitable list of regions relevant to network monitoring is created or discovered, it can be used.

Upcoming Changes

1. In past sub-track meetings, there have been discussions of publishing the applications of successfully evaluated RSPs.

   ○ For fuller transparency, all applications will be published – including the applications of unsuccessful evaluations.

   ○ All questions previously marked as being withheld would remain withheld from publication.

Review and Discussion of RSP Handbook

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kJqv4sBvQtYgQmmh6CGmc8YbhrtCXaDa-xeqNSDEwLI/edit?usp=sharing

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