Identifier Systems Security, Stability, and Resiliency Programs

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This program note describes one of four IS SSR programs, **Identifier system threat awareness and preparedness**.

Projects in this program area fall into two categories:

1. *Threat Intelligence and Response Preparation* involves the exchange of information that reveals or anticipates a threat or an imminent attack of a global nature involving identifier systems and the concomitant preparation of defenses against attack, increase in vigilance, or countermeasures (e.g., increasing diversity or capacity as a resiliency measure).

2. *Coordinated Response* involves the fulfillment of roles ICANN plays (typically, as a facilitator, notifier, knowledge or information contributor) in response to security events or incidents where identifier systems have been targeted or employed as instruments of attack (e.g., abuse or misuse of domains or the DNS by a globally-distributed botnet).

Our roles in this program are diverse. We are asked to assist with or facilitate introduction to appropriate parties (internal or external) on a wide set of awareness reporting and response activities including alleged RAA 2013 violations, mitigation of distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks against root or top level domain name servers, compromises of ccTLD registry operations and reports of vulnerabilities in DNS implementations or deployments (via ICANN's Coordinated Vulnerability Disclosure program).

In these cases, the Identifier System SSR Team considers the report or request, communicates this to ICANN staff or an ICANN contracted party with additional technical information, context, or with a validation of the reporter's credential. The outcomes are typically positive. The public safety community values opportunities to better understand why an initial response resulted in a different outcome than they sought, and are typically satisfied whether they are given a clearer explanation of policy, or a better understanding of what they need to do or provide to obtain what they consider a positive outcome.