Motivation Letter for Volunteering for the ICANN SSR2 Review

I have been working on and with DNSSEC since the late 90's. I believe it is an essential and often underestimated part of the internet core infrastructure. While some of the ideas of DNS are simple, the protocol has evolved significantly in the last 25 years such that many subtle and peculiar properties have emerged. What seems like a harmless change can have a significant operational impact, whether in the technical specification or in the software implementation.

With DNSSEC, the DNS protocol has started on a new journey providing security services to other internet protocols. This makes it more important than ever that we deploy DNS responsibly and securely.

The success of DNS has also attracted its fair share of abuse. DNS providers add more capacity to survive attacks, which adds even more resources to the internet that can be abused in distributed denial of service attacks. New fraudulent behavior and new technical attacks happen continuously. These events need to be closely monitored and analysed for their operation impact.

For years, I have worked on DNS security and stability with TLD operators, DNS software vendors, Operating System vendors and with ICANN. I have advised ICANN as a member of the DNSSEC Root Key Rollover Design Team. I was a member of the newGTLD Registry Services Technical Evaluation Panel where I reviewed Applicants on the Security and Stability of their DNS and Registry Services. I am currently an RSTEP member.

Through these roles, and through my participation at the IETF, I have worked together with various people in the ICANN community and with ICANN staff.

I am very interested to be part of the Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS Review Team.

Regards,

Paul Wouters