Letter of Motivation

Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency of the DNS (SSR2) Review Team

Simon M. Balthazar

I am writing to express my interest to serve as a Volunteer Review Team Member on the Second Security, Stability and Resilience (SSR2) Review Team as announced by ICANN on 30th June 2016.

In a matter of very few years, the Internet consolidated itself as a very powerful platform that has changed forever the way we do business, and the way we communicate. The Internet, as no other communication medium, has given a "Globalized" dimension to the world. Internet has become the universal source of information for millions of people, at home, at school, and at work. Dependencies of these proportions require secure, stable and resilient platform. This phenomenal is the core of my motivation to volunteer for the review team.

I am currently working with the Tanzania Network Information Centre (TZNIC) as a technical contact for .tz ccTLD. I have been with .tz since 2008 were I participated in its smooth redelegation to TZNIC. In my time at TZNIC as a technical lead, I have designed and participated in various projects which include introduction of the EPP capable registry software, development of registry policies to suit the 3R model, deployment of Ipv6 to all services offered by the registry, deployment of DNSSEC to .tz and all its second levels, hosting of two copies of root-servers at the registry (l.root-servers.net and f.root-servers.net), and lately adoption of DANE. This experience has enabled me to gather an extensive knowledge in Domain Name System and its related technologies.

I am a member of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Tanzania Computer Emergency Response Team (TZCERT). An organization whose mandate is to provide cyber security awareness, alerts and warnings, and incident responses to its constituency members such as government entities, banks, ISPs and other critical Infrastructures such as Tanzania Internet Exchange Point and .tz ccTLD. I am also part of Tanzania ICT Policy Review Committee, a team of elite ICT professionals tasked to review the national ICT policy of the country.
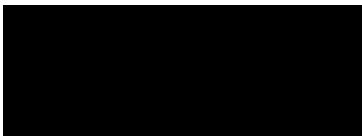
Internationally, I serve as a member of the technical/meeting working group of the Africa Top Level

Domain (AFTLD) where among other things we review the syllabus of the registry operations courses offered by AFTLD to its members. I also volunteer as a trainer in most of these trainings, an experience which have contributed to my greater understanding of the DNS industry in Africa through direct interaction with technical personnel from different registries and registrars in the region.

While I have not participated in any previous ICANN review sessions, what I can bring to the Review Team is my first hand experience on the subject matter, my passion and enthusiasm and dedication to the review process.

I am a strong believer of the Internet as a necessary tool to fasten development of the underserved areas including Africa. Stability and security of the Internet becomes my number one priority this is why I wish to devote my time for this good cause. If selected, I would be committed to engage in an objective and constructive review process of ICANN's responsibilities as defined in the Affirmation of Commitments. In the view of the above, I ask you look favourably at my application.

Yours sincerely,

Simon M. Balthazar