ICANN SSAC Review
by the Independent Examiner

ICANN61 Public Forum

March 13, 2018

Agenda

Introduction to the Independent Examiner

Scope and Design of the Review

Interviews and the Survey Instrument

Timeline

Q&A

Introduction to the Independent Examiner

- We have been hired as the Independent Examiner to conduct an independent review of the SSAC, as mandated by ICANN's Bylaws.

- The team has deep practical and/or research experience in:

  – Domain name operations and internet security.

  – Non-profit governance and volunteer-based organizations.

  – The design of interview and survey instruments.

  – ICANN.

- Our team is lead by Dr. Greg Rafert, Christopher Llop, Almudena Arcelus, Dr. Shlomo Hershkop, and Professor Steven Weber.

Introduction to the Independent Examiner (continued)

Dr. Shlomo Hershkop - Director of Engineering, Allure Security Technology, Inc.; Adjunct Professor at Columbia University and the University of Pennsylvania.

Professor Steven Weber - Faculty Director of the Center for Long Term Cyber Security, University of California, Berkeley.

Agenda

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Project Scope

- **The goal of our review is to provide an assessment of:**

  - The implementation state of SSAC's prior review.

  - Whether SSAC has a continuing purpose within the ICANN structure.

  - How effectively SSAC fulfills its purpose and whether any change in structure or operations is needed to improve effectiveness.

  - The extent to which SSAC as a whole is accountable to the wider ICANN community, its organizations, committees, constituencies, and stakeholder groups.

Project Scope (continued)

- **The criteria being examined includes, but is not limited to:**

  – Fulfillment of role within SSAC and adherence to internal procedures.

  – Ability to effectively bring expertise to bear on timely and relevant security and stability issues.

  – Utility of advice to ICANN Board and ICANN Community.

  – Composition, and membership processes and participation.

  – Accountability and transparency to the public.

  – Implementation of feedback received from last SSAC review.

Project Design

- **Our project is designed as a two-step process.**
- **Phase 1: Assessment**
  - Review of operating procedures, SSAC work product, other documents.
  - Interviews with roughly 40 people during and after ICANN61.
  - An online survey distributed to the ICANN community.
  - Observation of 2018 SSAC meetings, including at ICANN61.
  - Assessment report submitted for feedback to the ICANN community, and presented at ICANN62.
- **Phase 2: Recommendations**
  - Draft final report for public comment and session at ICANN63.
  - Final report.

Project Design (continued)

- **In the course of our project, we are coordinating with ICANN staff and the SSAC Review Working Party (RWP). They have:**

  - Assisted in interview outreach efforts.

  - Drawn our attention to specific documents to review.

  - Assisted in refining our understanding of SSAC processes.

  - Invited us to join SSAC meetings.

  - Provided us with thoughts from their own internal review process.

- **This coordination will not affect our independence.**

Agenda

Introduction to the Independent Examiner

Scope and Design of the Review

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Timeline

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Interview Process

- **Currently conducting interviews at ICANN61 and remotely. Interviewees include:**

  – Current and former SSAC members, Board members, SO/AC members, SSAC staff, and other members from the ICANN community.

- **Interviewees were identified based on:**

  – Knowledge of SSAC processes and SSAC interactions with various ICANN stakeholder groups.

  – Interest in providing feedback on the SSAC.

  – Diversity of perspective and experience.

  – Recommendations from interviewees, RWP members, and staff.

  Please let us know if you would like to be interviewed as part of the process, or if you know others on AC/SOs who might be interested!

Interview Process (continued)

- **Interviews are semi-structured, last approximately 45 minutes, and touch on a range of topics that reflect the criteria previously mentioned, including:**

  – Purpose and the extent to which the SSAC fulfills its purpose.

  – Membership size, structure, and diversity.

  – Methods of setting committee focus and developing work product.

  – Internal and external communication

  – Transparency, accountability, and fairness.

  – Implementation of and developments related to last SSAC review.

- **Interviewees are encouraged to share both strengths and weaknesses of the SSAC, and suggestions for improving the SSAC.**

Survey Process

- **Will be designed to elicit feedback on the SSAC's strengths and weaknesses from the community**

  – The survey is an information gathering tool and will not analyzed in a statistical manner.

  – Supplements interviews and casts a wider net in the ICANN community.

- **Informed by interview experience**

  – The survey also provides an opportunity for free-form responses.

- **Promotion of the survey**

  – ICANN announcements and through ICANN social media.

  – Outreach to community members conducted by the RWP.

Please keep an eye out for the survey in mid-April.

Agenda

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Timeline

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Milestone	Estimated Date
1. Review initial relevant background documents	February
2. Develop interview questions and solicit RWP interview question feedback	Finalize by March 5
3. Interviews at ICANN61 (and remotely as needed)	March
4. Process interview notes, design survey, and solicit RWP survey feedback	March - Early April
5. Survey period	Mid April - Mid May
6. Send Draft Assessment Report to RWP for discussion	Late May
7. Assessment Report published	June 20
8. Present Assessment Report at ICANN62	June 25 - 28
9. Deliver Recommendations to RWP	August
10. Draft Final Report published for public comment	September
11. Public Session at ICANN63	October 20 - 26
12. Final Report published	November

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Introduction to the Independent Examiner

Scope and Design of the Review

Interviews and the Survey Instrument

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Thank you for your time!

Questions?