DSSA-WG

Chartering and Launch

Problem statement

Better understand security and stability of the global domain name system (DNS).

Goals and Objectives

Report to respective participating SO's and AC's on:

- Actual level, frequency and severity of threats to the DNS
- Current efforts and activities to mitigate these threats to the DNS
- Gaps (if any) in the current response to DNS issues
- Possible additional risk mitigation activities that would assist in closing those gaps (if considered feasible and appropriate by the WG)

Scope

In scope
- Issues at the root and top level domains
- Within the framework of ICANN's coordinating role in managing Internet naming and numbering as stated in its Mission and Bylaws, namely that ICANN:
  - Coordinates the allocation and assignment of the three sets of unique identifiers for the Internet, which are
    - Domain names (forming a system referred to as "DNS");
    - Internet protocol ("IP") addresses and autonomous system ("AS") numbers; and
    - Protocol port and parameter numbers.
  - Coordinates the operation and evolution of the DNS root name server system.
  - Coordinates policy development reasonably and appropriately related to these technical functions.

Out of scope
- Issues which are outside of ICANN's coordinating role in manageing Internet naming and numbering, such as spam, malware, phishing, etc.

Organization

AC and SO Councils
- Act as "customer' and formal connection to ICANN
- Provide resources and support
- Resolve disputes if the WG can't

WG members and experts
- Develop work products and deliverables
- Represent constituencies
- Identify issues
- Conduct analyses
- Work toward consensus positions

Co-chairs
- Act as Program Management Steering Committee
- Structure and manage the work
- Monitor progress
- Take action when circumstances change or disputes arise
- Facilitate finding consensus positions

Support staff
- Provide advice and counsel
- Facilitate work group operation
- Assist with developing deliverables

Approach

- Draw on collective expertise of the participating SOs and ACs
- Solicit expert input and advice
- Take into account & coordinate with existing, ongoing and emerging research, studies and initiatives with respect to the DSSA-WG objectives
- Take a proactive role in fostering participation from relevant communities and expert groups
- Provide regular feedback (and opportunities to comment) on progress and topics identified in Goals and Objectives to:
  - participating SOs and ACs
  - the ICANN community in general
- Address issues that are deemed outside the scope of the WG in a timely manner
  - DSSA-WG Co-Chairs inform Chairs of the participating SOs and ACs
  - Participating SOs and ACs take appropriate action or remediation

Approach

	Excluded/ rejected	Included/ accepted	Under discussion/ no-consensus
Identify threats	X	✔	?
Analyze threats	X	✔	?
Solicit comments and develop report	X	✔	?
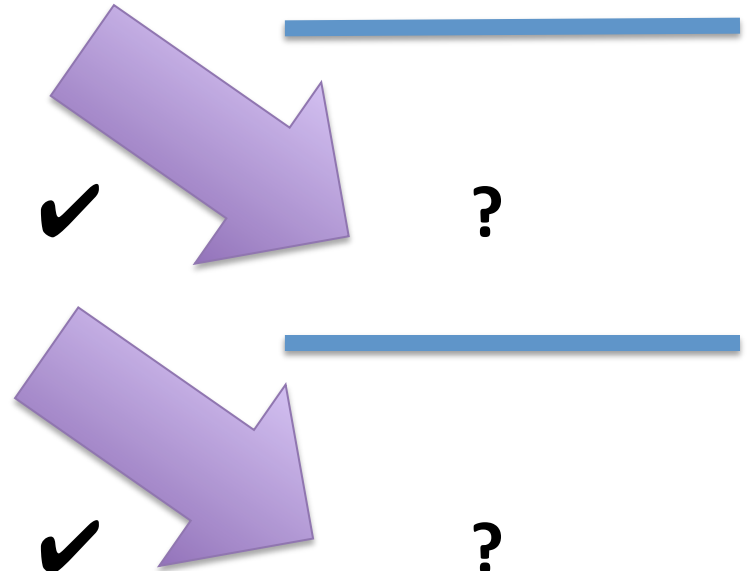
Readiness Assessment Questions

Question	Answer	Action
Is there a shared perception of the benefits and need-for-change?		
Do we have commitment from our respective AC's and SO's		
Is good-quality data available?		
Do we have the people and resources we need?		
Have we done this kind of thing before, or is this a new process that we should understand before starting?		
Do we have the project management processes and resources we need?		

Work plan – overview

Task	Deliverable	Elapsed time
Launch		
Address readiness issues		
Identify threats		
Analyze threats		
Prepare, solicit comments on, revise and publish report		
Celebrate		

Work plan – Launch

Task	Deliverable	Elapsed time
Draft DSSA-WG Charter	Charter	Complete
Establish WG membership and co-chairs	WG members	Complete
Establish and adopt a work plan	Work plan & schedule	2-4 weeks
Assess and address readiness issues resulting from cross-SO/AC effort	Readiness-assessment and actions	
Establish ongoing progress and status reporting mechanisms		
Determine criteria and mechanisms for segregating sensitive information		
Establish tools and infrastructure (scheduling, mailing list, wiki pages, conferencing, etc.)		
Prepare for and conduct kickoff meeting		

Work plan – Identify Threats

Task	Deliverable	Elapsed time
Identify and form work-teams (WTs) to develop lists of threats		
Develop WT lists of threats (including definitions)		
Obtain lists/definitions of threats from other experts and interested parties		
Develop preliminary list of identified threats		
Determine which identified threats are in scope and identify scope issues		
Resolve scope issues		
Test threat-list and scope-statements for consensus and revise as needed		

Work plan – Analyze Threats

Task	Deliverable	Elapsed time
Identify and form working teams (WTs) to analyze threats		
Determine level, frequency and severity of threats		
Describe current efforts/activities to mitigate threats		
Identify gaps in current security responses to DNS issues		
Identify possible additional risk mitigation activities to close gaps (if feasible and appropriate)		
Test analyses for consensus and revise as needed		

Work plan – Report

Task	Deliverable	Elapsed time
Prepare and publish initial report		
Publicize results, encourage/obtain public comment		
Review public comments and determine what changes should be made to the report		
Revise and publish final report		