

# RSSAC2 Organizational Review: Detailed Implementation Plan

This Detailed Implementation Plan has been developed  
by the RSSAC for consideration by the ICANN Board.

## Recommendation 1a

Recommendation	Extend RSSAC membership by invitation to any qualified person.
RWP Comments in FAIP (if applicable)	n/a
Who will implement the recommendation: ICANN community, ICANN Board, ICANN organization, other?	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> ICANN Board, RSSAC, other (stakeholders of the Root Server System)</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> The ICANN Board and community continue to make progress toward implementation of a new governance model for the Root Server System as envisioned in RSSAC037. This development will affect the membership model of the RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus.</p>
Activities, if any, on which implementation is dependent, or that are dependent on implementation of this recommendation	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> ICANN Board implementation of RSSAC038</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> Whatever governance model the Root Server System Governance Working Group develops will likely contain a new membership model for the RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus. Therefore, this work will determine how RSSAC implements this recommendation.</p>
Anticipated non-fiscal resources for the implementation (volunteers time, ICANN org, tools, etc.)	ICANN org support (Legal and Finance)
How soon after the Board acceptance of the detailed implementation plan can the implementation start?	It will likely take roughly one year after the stakeholders of the Root Server System, including the ICANN Board, adopt a new governance model for the Root Server System to implement a new membership model for the RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus.
What is the anticipated duration of the implementation effort to completion? Short: 0-10 months	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u></p> <p>Current Membership Model: N/A</p> <p>Future Membership Model: 2-3 years</p>

<p>Medium: ≤ 20 months Long: ≤ 30 months</p>	<p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> Per the work plan of the Root Server System Governance Working Group, it will take roughly a year (2020) to develop the final governance model for the Root Server System and then another year of review and approval (2021). Therefore, implementation of a new membership model for the RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus (or their successor structures) would take place in 2022.</p>
<p>High-level implementation steps</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> Implementing a future membership model is linked to the ICANN Board response to RSSAC037 and RSSAC038.</p>
<p>Proposed detailed implementation steps (should be based on the high-level steps provided by the RWP)</p>	<p>Root Server System Governance Working Group develops final governance model, which includes new membership model for the RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus.</p> <p>Root Server System stakeholders approve final governance model.</p> <p>New membership model takes effect.</p>
<p>Detailed implementation costing (if applicable)</p>	<p>Costs for supporting a new membership model for the RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus are already assumed in standard community support from the ICANN org Policy Development Support function. ICANN org has committed to support the work of the Root Server System Governance Working Group.</p>

## Recommendation 3

<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>Formalize the responsibilities of the RSSAC to the ICANN Board and Community in a work plan that is periodically reviewed and published; and hold the RSSAC accountable for work plan deliverables.</p>
<p>RWP Comments in FAIP (if applicable)</p>	<p>The RSSAC welcomes this recommendation and looks forward to discussing next steps. The RSSAC reiterates, though, that from its perspective, there is no misalignment between the understanding and expectations of the ICANN Board and RSSAC in regard to its advice and work. As with any other group within ICANN, the RSSAC adjusts its work to reflect the availability of its members and allocation of supporting resources from the ICANN organization, so it is not clear what “hold the RSSAC accountable” means in this context. The RSSAC takes several steps, on a regular basis, to share its work with the community and solicit input on where it might need to engage: The RSSAC regularly meets with the ICANN Board at every ICANN public meeting to discuss its work and items of mutual interest; provides updates on its work at ICANN public meetings; and works closely with the RSSAC liaison to the ICANN Board to make sure the ICANN Board knows when RSSAC input is relevant to its work. Since ICANN62, RSSAC work sessions have been open to observation by default.</p>
<p>Who will implement the recommendation: ICANN community, ICANN Board, ICANN organization, other?</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> RSSAC</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> In March 2019, the RSSAC adopted a work plan, which is published on <a href="http://rssac.icann.org">rssac.icann.org</a>. RSSAC reviews this work plan annually to ensure it is current and reflective of RSSAC projects and priorities.</p>
<p>Activities, if any, on which implementation is dependent, or that are dependent on implementation of this recommendation</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> It would be particularly helpful to have an example of another ICANN community group that uses such a work plan.</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u></p>

	The RSSAC reviewed the work plans of the SSAC and various other community groups including policy development process working groups for models of what to adopt.
Anticipated non-fiscal resources for the implementation (volunteers time, ICANN org, tools, etc.)	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> Web and publication support.</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> RSSAC support staff publishes the RSSAC work plan on rssac.icann.org after RSSAC approval.</p>
How soon after the Board accepted the detailed implementation plan can the implementation start?	RSSAC first published its annual work plan in March 2019 and reviewed it in December 2019.
<p>What is the anticipated duration of the implementation effort to completion?</p> <p>Short: 0-10 months Medium: ≤ 20 months Long: ≤ 30 months</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> Short: 3 months</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> The implementation effort was roughly three months (January-March 2019).</p>
High-level implementation steps	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The RSSAC would develop a work plan template and share with ICANN Board/community for feedback.</li> <li>2. The RSSAC would publish its work plan and regularly update it.</li> </ol>
Proposed detailed implementation steps (based on the high-level steps provided by the RWP)	This recommendation has been implemented.
Detailed implementation costs (if applicable)	n/a

## Recommendation 3a

<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>Engage in ongoing threat assessment and risk analysis of the Root Server System and recommend any necessary audit activity to assess the current status of root servers and the root zone.</p>
<p>RWP Comments in FAIP (if applicable)</p>	<p>This recommendation asks the RSSAC to execute the mission in its charter. As such, the RSSAC welcomes this recommendation and looks forward to discussing next steps. The RSSAC continues to be engaged in threat assessment and risk analysis and looks forward to receiving detailed items where the ICANN community believes increased focus is needed.</p>
<p>Who will implement the recommendation: ICANN community, ICANN Board, ICANN organization, other?</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> RSSAC</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u></p> <p>Per the FAIP, this recommendation asks the RSSAC to execute its mission. As such, the RSSAC welcomes this recommendation. The RSSAC continues to engage in threat assessment and risk analysis and looks forward to receiving potential work items where the ICANN Board and community believe increased focus is needed. For example, in December 2019, the RSSAC published “RSSAC045: RSSAC Statement on Threat Mitigation for the Root Server System”, endorsing the work of the Root Server Operators which outlines security risks for the Root Server System and general methods for mitigation. This was a request from the ICANN Board in March 2018.</p>
<p>Activities, if any, on which implementation is dependent, or that are dependent on implementation of this recommendation</p>	<p>Implementation of this recommendation is ongoing.</p>
<p>Anticipated non-fiscal resources for the implementation (volunteers time, ICANN org, tools, etc.)</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> Research support.</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> n/a</p>

<p>How soon after the Board acceptance of the detailed implementation plan can the implementation start?</p>	<p>Implementation of this recommendation is ongoing.</p>
<p>What is the anticipated duration of the implementation effort to completion?  Short: 0-10 months  Medium: ≤ 20 months  Long: ≤ 30 months</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP</u>: Medium: 1 year   <u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan</u>:  Implementation of this recommendation is ongoing.</p>
<p>High-level implementation steps</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP</u>:  Upon realizing the need for focused efforts on specific issues:  1. The RSSAC would develop a statement of work and launch a work party.  2. The RSSAC would review the outcomes of the threat assessment and develop a document.  3. The RSSAC would publish the document.</p>
<p>Proposed detailed implementation steps (based on the high-level steps provided by the RWP)</p>	<p>The detailed implementation steps are the same as the high-level implementation steps in the FAIP.</p>
<p>Detailed implementation costs (if applicable)</p>	<p>Costs for supporting ongoing RSSAC threat assessment and risk analysis are already assumed in standard community support from the ICANN org Policy Development Support function.</p>

## Recommendation 4

Recommendation	Develop and implement a leadership training and succession plan.
RWP Comments in FAIP (if applicable)	The RSSAC welcomes this recommendation and looks forward to discussing next steps. As agreed upon with the ICANN Board, the establishment of the current leadership structure in 2014 was a direct result of the first organizational review of the RSSAC. The RSSAC recognizes the importance of evolving its leadership structure. Discussions about the RSSAC leadership structure are already underway. The topics of succession and training can be addressed in this context.
Who will implement the recommendation: ICANN community, ICANN Board, ICANN organization, other?	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> RSSAC, ICANN Board</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> After robust discussions, the RSSAC updated its operational procedures in March 2019, modifying its leadership structure from model of two co-chairs to a chair and vice chair. Due to the required amendments to the ICANN Bylaws, the ICANN Board considered and approved this in May 2019. A Public Comment proceeding in June/July 2019 found no objections from the community. The ICANN Board approved the amendments to the ICANN Bylaws in September 2019, and the Empowered Community subsequently did not reject the action. The new provisions in the ICANN Bylaws went into effect in October 2019, and the RSSAC elected its first chair/vice chair team in December 2019.</p>
Activities, if any, on which implementation is dependent, or that are dependent on implementation of this recommendation	Amending ICANN Bylaws
Anticipated non-fiscal resources for the implementation (volunteers time, ICANN org, tools, etc.)	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> Drafting support</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> ICANN Legal reviewed the proposed amendments to the ICANN Bylaws.</p>



<p>How soon after the Board acceptance of the detailed implementation plan can the implementation start?</p>	<p>After the ICANN Board and Empowered Community processes concluded, implementation took less than two months.</p>
<p>What is the anticipated duration of the implementation effort to completion?  Short: 0-10 months  Medium: ≤ 20 months  Long: ≤ 30 months</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP</u>: Short-Medium: 6 months-1 year  <u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan</u>:  The implementation effort was roughly nine months (March-December 2019).</p>
<p>High-level implementation steps</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP</u>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The RSSAC would discuss its leadership structure and agree on revisions to current model or on a new model.</li> <li>2. If the RSSAC revises current model, the RSSAC would implement it.</li> <li>3. If the RSSAC approves a new model, the ICANN Board would adopt Bylaw changes, then the RSSAC would implement the new model.</li> </ol>
<p>Proposed detailed implementation steps (based on the high-level steps provided by the RWP)</p>	<p>This recommendation has been implemented.</p>
<p>Detailed implementation costs (if applicable)</p>	<p>n/a</p>

## Recommendation 5

Recommendation	Engage more actively with the rest of ICANN and its Community.
RWP Comments in FAIP (if applicable)	<p>The RSSAC believes its engagement is generally appropriate given its charter and role as an advisory committee. The RSSAC welcomes this recommendation and looks forward to discussing next steps. The RSSAC recognizes the importance of improving its engagement with the ICANN community while remaining focused on its core mission and welcomes input on how to best balance between these priorities. As a path toward increased engagement, since ICANN62 the RSSAC has made its work sessions open to observation by default and regular update and information sessions will continue to be arranged. However, the RSSAC respectfully suggests that “engagement” is not an end in itself and should serve a purpose.</p> <p>The RSSAC notes that it currently maintains liaison relationships with the ICANN Board, the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC), the Internet Architecture Board, the IANA Functions Operator, the Root Zone Maintainer (RZM), the Customer Standing Committee (CSC), and the Root Zone Evolution Review Committee (RZERC). The RSSAC would be willing to consider establishing additional mutually beneficial liaison relationships, too. Furthermore, the RSSAC invites the ICANN community to attend its sessions at ICANN public meetings and observe its various joint meetings (e.g., ICANN Board, OCTO, Nominating Committee, etc.).</p>
Who will implement the recommendation: ICANN community, ICANN Board, ICANN organization, other?	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> RSSAC</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> n/a</p>
Activities, if any, on which implementation is dependent, or that are dependent on	n/a

implementation of this recommendation	
Anticipated non-fiscal resources for the implementation (volunteers time, ICANN org, tools, etc.)	n/a
How soon after the Board acceptance of the detailed implementation plan can the implementation start?	<p><u>According to FAIP</u>: Next ICANN public meeting</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan</u>: Implementation of this recommendation is ongoing.</p>
<p>What is the anticipated duration of the implementation effort to completion?</p> <p>Short: 0-10 months</p> <p>Medium: ≤ 20 months</p> <p>Long: ≤ 30 months</p>	Implementation of this recommendation is ongoing.
High-level implementation steps	<p><u>According to FAIP</u>: The RSSAC will proactively engage with ICANN community groups about its publications. The RSSAC will continue to seek input on other possible steps toward greater engagement.</p>
Proposed detailed implementation steps (based on the high-level steps provided by the RWP)	The RSSAC will continue to engage with the ICANN community via its established liaison relationships, open work sessions and meetings, publications, and tutorials about the Root Server System. The RSSAC leadership will also continue to work with ICANN community leaders as necessary.
Detailed implementation costs (if applicable)	Costs for supporting ongoing RSSAC engagement with the ICANN community are already assumed in standard community support from the ICANN org Policy Development Support function.

## Recommendation 6a

<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>Develop a more effective and transparent process for defining RSSAC Caucus projects, engaging its members and managing its membership, managing its work, and promoting its output.</p>
<p>RWP Comments in FAIP (if applicable)</p>	<p>The RSSAC recognizes the importance of developing the projects, engagement, management, and output of the RSSAC Caucus and regularly seeks input from it about potential work items. This guides the decision-making and prioritization of the RSSAC. Currently, the RSSAC Caucus Membership Committee is evaluating the engagement and contributions of each RSSAC Caucus member. The RSSAC also reviews its operational procedures on annual basis, making adjustments as necessary to improve its function as an advisory committee and its relationship with the RSSAC Caucus.</p>
<p>Who will implement the recommendation: ICANN community, ICANN Board, ICANN organization, other?</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> RSSAC</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> n/a</p>
<p>Activities, if any, on which implementation is dependent, or that are dependent on implementation of this recommendation</p>	<p>Rather than modifying the membership model and work processes of the RSSAC Caucus now, the RSSAC will closely follow the work and output of the Root Server System Governance Work Group. Any changes to the RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus as a result of this work will be reviewed by the RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus.</p>
<p>Anticipated non-fiscal resources for the implementation (volunteers time, ICANN org, tools, etc.)</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> Drafting support</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> n/a</p>
<p>How soon after the Board acceptance of the detailed implementation plan can the implementation start?</p>	<p><u>According to FAIP:</u> High priority, moderate implementation effort</p> <p><u>Update as part of this Detailed Implementation Plan:</u> It will likely take roughly one year after the stakeholders of the Root Server System, including the ICANN Board,</p>

	adopt a new governance model for the Root Server System to implement changes to the RSSAC Caucus.
<p>What is the anticipated duration of the implementation effort to completion?</p> <p>Short: 0-10 months</p> <p>Medium: ≤ 20 months</p> <p>Long: ≤ 30 months</p>	<p>According to FAIP: Short – Medium: 6 months-1 year</p> <p>Update as part of this <u>Detailed Implementation Plan</u>: Per the work plan of the Root Server System Governance Working Group, it will take roughly a year (2020) to develop the final governance model for the Root Server System and then another year of review and approval (2021). Therefore, implementation of changes to the RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus (or their successor structures) would take place in 2022.</p>
High-level implementation steps	<p>According to FAIP:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The RSSAC, RSSAC Caucus, and RSSAC Caucus Membership Committee discuss how to better define, initiate, track, complete, and track work items and how to better recruit, onboard, engage, and offboard its members.</li> <li>2. RSSAC operational procedures are modified/updated accordingly.</li> </ol>
Proposed detailed implementation steps (based on the high-level steps provided by the RWP)	<p>In early 2019, the RSSAC modified how RSSAC Caucus work is conducted. All substantive work party discussions, including draft and final report reviews, occur on the RSSAC Caucus mailing list rather than on individual work party mailing lists. This promotes broader participation. The RSSAC continues to involve the RSSAC Caucus in determining its work projects and priorities.</p> <p>The RSSAC Caucus Membership Committee is assessing the individual engagement of RSSAC Caucus members. The output of this effort will provide the RSSAC with a better understanding of the levels of participation and contributions in the RSSAC Caucus.</p> <p>These two developments are incremental steps to improve RSSAC Caucus operations as the RSSAC marks five years since the establishment of the RSSAC Caucus.</p> <p>Any changes to the membership model of the RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus and the structural relationship between them as a result of Root Server System governance evolution will be reviewed and carefully</p>

	considered before modifications to charters and operational procedures.
Detailed implementation costs (if applicable)	Costs for supporting the RSSAC and RSSAC Caucus are already assumed in standard community support from the ICANN org Policy Development Support function. ICANN org has committed to support the work of the Root Server System Governance Working Group.