28 October 2017

SSR2 Review Team

Dear SSR2 Review Team,

The Board has received and carefully considered advice from the SSAC and feedback from a number of SO/AC chairs expressing concern about the composition, process and structure of the Security, Stability and Resiliency Review (SSR2) now underway. The SSR2 review is a critical input for ICANN in service of its mission, and ICANN appropriately devotes considerable resources to this effort. In light of the importance of this effort, the concerns being expressed, and the resources devoted to date, we believe that it is imperative that the community assure itself that the SSR2 is appropriately composed and structured to achieve its purpose. Accordingly, the Board will be meeting with SO/AC Chairs, the SSR2 Review Team, and the community on this topic throughout ICANN 60, and following the meeting will formally ask the SOs and ACs to consider whether they believe there is a need to adjust the scope, terms of reference, work plan, skill set and/or resources allocated to SSR2.

Without prejudging the answer to those questions, the Board considers that the most responsible course is to suspend the review team’s work pending responses from the SOs and ACs. For ICANN60, the Board requests that you continue your engagement sessions, and use your scheduled face-to-face meeting on Friday to review the feedback from those sessions. However, all other work should be paused until the issues raised above have been addressed.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen D. Crocker
Chairman, ICANN Board of Director