

Technical Committee (BTC) Activity Report – 1 January through 30 June 2019

Section I – Completed Activities

Item	Description	Committee Completion Date	Accomplishments/Outcome
Root server System Evolution: RSSAC37 & 38 Implementation Plan	BTC to propose an implementation plan that includes community input to the Board	03 May 2019	Implementation Plan approved for public comment by the Board in resolution 2019.05.03.26
NCAP Study	The BTC to make a final recommendation to the Board on the next step of the NCAP proposal.	March 2019	The BTC has shared its recommendation with the Board which has discussed it and approved Resolution 2019.03.14.20 – 2019.03.14.23 as next step.
DNS Ecosystem security risk assessment	BTC to work with OCTO to prepare a workshop at ICANN64 on best practices for securing the DNS ecosystem as input to the Board review of the DNS ecosystem security improvement.	13 March 2019	A session was organized in Kobe (ICANN64) to engage the community on “Coming Up With Best Practices to Improve Security in the DNS Ecosystem”
Other update and forward-looking activities	The BTC to get regular updates from ICANN ORG on key technical projects and received a briefing from OTCO on trends and evolution in the Internet Identifier System landscape.	Recurring Activity	<p>The BTC has received updates from ORG over the period in review on several technical project and technology trends such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Progress update on ITI ● Progress update on Open Data Project ● Update on ICANN infrastructure Security assessment from IT&E ● DoH and DoT ● Update on AAR

Section II – Activity in Progress

Item	Description	Target Completion date	Accomplishments/Outcome
Root Zone Management System Revision Studies	OCTO to conduct analyses of revising the RZMS through two studies, which would be the subject of RFPs. The first study would evaluate the process as it is today and provide possible recommendations on incremental changes that could be made to make the process more robust. The second study would not be limited to making incremental changes to the current approach but would instead consider potential new approaches for making changes to the content of the root zone.	Q4 2019	<p>Internal discussions between OCTO and IANA are under way on the first study to determine its possible relationship to the upcoming IANA Functions Review. An RFP process will ultimately select a contractor to perform the study, but the timing is uncertain pending the conclusion of the discussions mentioned above.</p> <p>An RFP process will also be used to select a contractor for the second study. The contractor will survey the community to document the pros and cons of possible new approaches to root zone management.</p>
Technical Experts Group (TEG) and BTC	OCTO to prepare a proposal on how to integrate the TEG meeting into the public portion of the Board Technical Committee meeting	15 December 2019	Drafted an interaction framework for the group up for discussion in Montreal.
Root Server Crisis Communication Plan	OCTO to work with interested Root server Operators to finalize a consolidated and coordinated Root Server System Crisis communication plan.	15 December 2019	Root Server Operators are working on a consolidated response about their existing process. Once finalized, it will be used by OCTO to build a consolidated one that the Board can review and consider for approval.
DNS Ecosystem Security	Prepare a thought paper for the Board on security risks associated with the overall DNS ecosystem.	30 September 2019	A security risk matrix has been prepared and under discussion to prepare the thought paper for the Board.



Section III: Appendix – Resolutions Recommended by the BTC

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS :

Public Comment on Root Server System Evolution [2019.05.03.26]

Whereas, the ICANN Bylaws establish the Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC) with the role to advise the ICANN community and the ICANN Board of Directors on matters relating to the operation, administration, security, and integrity of the Internet's Root Server System (RSS).

Whereas, the RSSAC published "RSSAC037: A Proposed Governance Model for the DNS Root Server System" (RSSAC037) proposing five functions to provide governance, accountability, and transparency for the Root Server System and "RSSAC038: RSSAC Advisory on a Proposed Governance Model for the DNS Root Server System" (RSSAC038), making three recommendations for next steps to the ICANN Board.

Whereas, the ICANN Board, through its Board Technical Committee, oversaw the development of a "Concept Paper on a Community-Driven Process to Develop a Final Model Based on RSSAC037," (Concept Paper) proposing a model based on the RSSAC037.

Whereas, the Concept Paper proposed a community-driven process to develop a final model to be led by the Root Server System Governance Working Group (GWG) in response to recommendation one from RSSAC038.

Whereas, ICANN org developed a draft charter and operating procedures and a draft work plan for the GWG and ICANN org to launch the work of evolving the RSS.

Resolved (2019.05.03.26), the ICANN Board of Directors directs the ICANN President and CEO, or his designee(s), to publish for Public Comment RSSAC037, the Concept Paper, the draft charter and operating procedures and draft work plan for the GWG.

<https://features.icann.org/public-comment-root-server-system-evolution>

Name Collision Analysis Project – First Study [2019.03.14.20 – 2019.03.14.23]

Whereas, on 2 November 2017, the Board requested ICANN's Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) to a plan for Board approval setting out studies of the issue of name collision, with many elements detailed. See <https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2017-11-02-en>.

Whereas, the SSAC delivered, in September 2018, a proposed Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP) proposal, which detailed three studies anticipated to meet the call of the Board's 2017 resolution.

Whereas, in October 2018, the Board Technical Committee (BTC) asked ICANN organization, through the Office of the Chief Technical Officer (OCTO), for an assessment of the NCAP proposal. Subsequently, OCTO and SSAC had discussions that provided additional information and further clarification to OCTO on the details of the proposal.

Whereas, OCTO's assessment noted that a survey and summary of previous research on name collisions would be valuable, however a data repository and associated policies for use of that repository may not be necessary if a future decision is made to not continue with Study 2 and Study 3. As a result, OCTO refined the scope of the SSAC's proposed Study 1 on Understanding the Current State of Name Collisions to defer the implementation of a data repository and related policy development.

Whereas, OCTO outlined for the BTC a proposed study on Understanding the Current State of Name Collisions with three goals: 1) examine all prior work on the issue of name collisions and produce a summary report that brings forward important knowledge from prior work into this study, and which can act as a primer for those new to the subject; 2) create a list of results of the data used in past studies, identify gaps, if any, and list additional data that would be required to successfully conduct the two additional identified studies; and 3) provide information that will facilitate a decision on whether the NCAP should proceed with studies 2 and 3 based on the results of the survey of prior work and the availability of data.

Whereas, the BTC considered the OCTO proposal for a study on Understanding the Current State of Name Collisions, including the financial impact of this and all 3 studies and, on 4 March 2019, recommended that the Board direct ICANN org to move forward with Study 1.

Resolved (2019.03.14.20), the ICANN Board thanks the SSAC for its work in responding to the November 2017 resolution and developing an initial proposal for the Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP) and subsequent revisions to that proposal.

Resolved, (2019.03.14.21), the Board directs ICANN's President and CEO, or his designee(s), to proceed with the Study 1 on the Understanding the Current State of Name Collisions as refined by ICANN org.



Resolved (2019.03.14.22), the Board directs ICANN's President and CEO, or his designee(s), to identify and make available funding within proper budgetary and procurement limits, and that the expenses incurred for the proposed study shall not exceed [REDACTED FOR NEGOTIATION PURPOSES].

Resolved (2019.03.14.23), specific items within this resolution shall remain confidential for negotiation purposes pursuant to Article 3, Section 3.5(b) and (d) of the ICANN Bylaws until the President and CEO determines that the confidential information may be released.

<https://features.icann.org/name-collision-analysis-project-%E2%80%93-first-study>