

Technical Committee (BTC) Activity Report – 1 July through 31 December 2019

Section I – Completed Activities

Item	Description	Committee Completion Date	Accomplishments/Outcome
DNS Ecosystem Security Risk Assessment	To prepare a thought paper for the Board on security risks associated with the overall DNS ecosystem. Work with the Office of the CTO the Risk Committee for alignment on the identification and evaluation of the risks.	7 September 2019	A paper on the DNS ecosystem risk assessment including potential role for ICANN was presented to the board during its workshop in Los Angeles (in September 2019). Further action delayed until other work on the same topic completed by the community (SSAC).
Root Server System Evolution: RSSAC037 & 038 Implementation Plan	The Committee to work with ICANN ORG to finalize the concept paper for a community-driven Process that will develop the final model including a revised Root Server System Governance Working Group (RSS-GWG) charter following the public comments period.	1 November 2019	The BTC approved the revised charter of the GWG and recommended its approval by the Board. This was acted on by Board resolution 2019.11.07.42
Other Update and Forward-Looking Activities	The Committee receives regular updates from ICANN ORG on key technical projects and on trends and evolution in the Internet Identifier System landscape.	Recurring Activity	The BTC has received updates from ICANN ORG over the period in review on several technical projects and technology trends such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Progress update on the Information Transparency Platform (ITP) ● Progress update on Open Data Project (ODP) ● Update on ICANN IT infrastructure

Section II – Activity in Progress

Item	Description	Target Completion date	Accomplishments/Outcome
Root Zone Management System (RZMS) Revision Studies	As a result of the transition of the stewardship of the IANA Function, OCTO will conduct an analysis of the RZMS through two studies, which would be the subject of RFPs. The first study would evaluate the RZMS system and process as it is today and provide possible recommendations on incremental changes that could be made to increase robustness or other improvements. The second study would not be limited to making incremental changes to the current approach but would instead take a “clean slate” approach for making changes to the content of the root zone.	Q4 2019 Q3 2020	The documentation for the RFP for the first study has been written and has been sent to Verisign (as the Root Zone Maintainer) for a courtesy review and to solicit their comments. The RFP should be opened during Q1 2020. Work on the RFP for the second study will begin after work on the first study has started.
Root Server System Crisis Communication Plan	The BTC to propose a consolidated and coordinated Root Server System crisis communication plan for Board review.	15 December 2019 March 2020	Root Server Operators are working to finish documenting their existing process. When finalized, that documentation will be used by the BTC and ICANN ORG to develop a consolidated crisis communications plan that the Board can review and approve.
ICANN Managed Root Server (IRMS) Strategy	The BTC to oversee the revision of an integrated IMRS deployment strategy.	March 2020	OCTO to work with the DNS Engineering team to provide the BTC with an updated version of the IMRS deployment strategy. The Objective is to meet the global root server infrastructure resilience requirements in the face of the evolving threats to that infrastructure.

DNS Security Threats Facilitation Function	<p>The BTC to recommend to the Board a plan to set up a DNS Security Threat Facilitation Function.</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>A cross-functional steering committee has been created to help guide the project. That committee consists of three ICANN executives and three ICANN board members.</p> <p>The committee held its inaugural meeting and has concluded that the effort could benefit from community support. A “Technical Study Group” consisting of qualified individuals from the community will be formed to help with the project.</p> <p>Initial thoughts on a leader for the TSG and membership are underway and a proposed implementation timeline is expected to conclude with a TSG recommendation in early 2021.</p>
NCAP Study	<p>The BTC to oversee the work of the SSAC NCAP Admin committee on Study 1 and provide the Board with recommendation(s) once completed.</p>	<p>June 2020</p>	<p>A contractor, Scarfone Cybersecurity, has been selected and is preparing a draft of the Study 1 report, which is scheduled to be delivered to OCTO and reviewed by the entire NCAP Discussion Group (consisting of SSAC and interested community members) in January 2020.</p>
Interaction between the Technical Liaison Group, the Technical Experts Group (TEG) and the BTC	<p>OCTO to work on a proposal to integrate the TEG meeting into the public portion of the Board Technical Committee meeting.</p>	<p>15 March 2020</p>	<p>Drafted an interaction framework for the BTC interaction with the groups.</p>

Section III: Appendix – Resolutions Recommended by the BTC

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS :

Initiation of the Root Server System Governance Working Group

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

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, under the direction of the Board Technical Committee, ICANN org developed a draft charter, operating procedures, and work plan for the GWG.

Whereas, ICANN org published RSSAC037; the Concept Paper; and the GWG draft charter, operating procedures, and work plan for Public Comment from May to August 2019.

Whereas, nine submissions were received during Public Comment. ICANN org summarized the submissions and proposed next steps to the Board Technical Committee.

Whereas, the Board Technical Committee reviewed the Public Comment submissions, amended the charter and operating procedures of the GWG, adjusted the work plan timeline of the GWG, and recommended the convening of the GWG.

Resolved (2019.11.07.42), the ICANN Board directs the ICANN President and CEO, or his designee(s), to publish the final charter, operating procedures, and work plan for the GWG and to convene the GWG.

<https://features.icann.org/initiation-root-server-system-governance-working-group>