

Board Technical Committee (BTC) Activity Report – 1 July 2020 through 31 December 2020

Section I – Completed Activities

Item	Description	Committee Completion Date	Accomplishments/Outcome
ICANN Managed Root Server (IMRS) Strategy	BTC to oversee the work on a high-level strategy for the ICANN Managed Root Server (IMRS) deployment and root zone management services.	31 December 2020	The work was completed and published in the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) document series OCTO-016 .
Resolution to perform the KSK ceremony as provided in contingency plans	ICANN org to prepare a Board resolution to continue taking all necessary steps to perform the KSK ceremony as provided in contingency plans.	31 December 2020	The resolution has been prepared and adopted by the Board. (Board Resolution - 2020.12.17.04)
Research on New IP to keep the Board and the community apprised of what it entails	OCTO to investigate and study the concept of New IP.	31 October 2020	The work was completed and published in the OCTO document series OCTO-17 .
Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP) – Study 1	BTC to oversee the NCAP work. The work for this period was focused on Study 1 and the way forward for Studies 2 and 3.	NCAP Study 1 was completed on 30 June 2020, NCAP Studies 2 and 3 are ongoing.	The completed report of Study 1 was submitted to the BTC along with a few options for a revised Studies 2 and 3. After discussing a revised Study 2, OCTO will work with the BTC to make the necessary updates.
Other Updates and Forward-Looking Activities	BTC to receive regular updates from ICANN org on key technical projects and on trends and evolution of the Internet Identifier System landscape.	Recurring Activities	<p>The BTC has received updates from ICANN org on several technical projects and technology trends including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular key activities updates from Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC) and Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) Board liaisons. • Update on the public comments received for the Proposal for Future Root Zone KSK Rollovers taking into consideration the impact of travel restrictions.

Section II – Activities in Progress

Item	Description	Target Completion date	Accomplishments/Outcome
Root Zone Management (RZM) Evolution Study	In accordance with requirements in the IANA functions stewardship transition agreement, ICANN org (via OCTO) will conduct analyses of whether and how to revise the existing RZM 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 a potential new radical approach for making changes to the content of the root zone.	Q2 2021	A contractor is selected to conduct a study on the current RZM process and make recommendations on areas for improvement. The outcome of that study will inform both the evolutionary and the revolutionary roadmaps of this project.
DNS Security Facilitation Initiative	The BTC to recommend to the Board a plan to setup a DNS Security Facilitation Initiative.	TBD	A community technical study group is setup to further study and propose a plan for the facilitation function with input from the community.
Evolution of the Root Server System governance: RSSAC037/038 implementation plan	The BTC to oversee the implementation of RSSAC037/038.	TBD	A Board Caucus was formed (including all BTC members) to oversee the work of the Root Server System Governance Working Group (RSS-GWG). The Caucus meets regularly to review proposals under discussion in the GWG and receives direct Board input through its appointed Board liaison. The BTC continues to receive regular updates from ICANN org on the progress of the GWG.

Section III: Appendix – Resolutions Recommended by the BTC

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS :

Contingency Plans for 2021 Key Signing Key Ceremonies

Whereas, ICANN, through its affiliate PTI, must regularly generate cryptographic signatures that allow the root zone to be properly authenticated using DNSSEC. This work is currently performed every three months using "key signing ceremonies" involving trusted community representatives from throughout the world, governed by the DNSSEC Practice Statement.

Whereas, in April 2020, the Board resolved to authorize contingency plans to hold these ceremonies in a modified format in response to the challenges posted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge ICANN's ability to perform the key ceremonies according to policy, due to global travel restrictions and guidance from governments and health authorities to limit gatherings of people.

Resolved (2020.12.17.04), the Board finds the contingency plans continue to be in the best interests of ICANN and in the global public interest, and authorizes the President and CEO, or his designee(s), in consultation with the PTI President, to take all necessary steps to perform the key signing ceremonies as provided in the contingency plans during 2021.

<https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2020-12-17-en#1.c>.