

RSSAC 42 meeting Notes

25 March 2012, 3:00pm - 5:00pm Local Paris Time

Agenda Items

1. Welcome / Introductions

(Not complete list)

Akira Kato
Anand Buddhdev
Bill Manning
Brad Verd
Colleen Louw
Joe Abley
Greg Parick
Gerry Sneeringer
Hiro Hotta
Howard Kash
Jim Cassel
Joao Damas
Johan Ihren
Lars-John Liman
Les Bloom
Matt Larson
Peter Koch
Romeo Zwart
Russ Munday
Shinta Sato
Steve Sheng
Suzanne Woolf
Terry Manderson
Tomoya Sakaguchi
Yuji Sekiya

2. Nomcom update (Joao)

- Joao is in his second year as the RSSAC representatives to the ICANN nomcom. The nomcom is tasked with selecting various ICANN leaders including Board members. He is stepping down from the nomcom this year.
- The key responsibilities are to participate in three Nominating Committee meetings in a year (which take place at ICANN meetings). The first meeting is an introductory meeting (selection process overview, conflict of interest policies); the second meeting is outreach (spread the word and get candidates); the third meeting is where the interview and final selection takes place.
- No volunteers stepped forward to replace Joao, will continue to discuss on the mailing list.

3. SSRT and DSSA update (Bill)

- Bill Manning is the RSSAC representative to the Security and Stability Review Team (SSRT).
- The Security and Stability Review Team (SSRT) attempted to look at the ICANN SSR framework as part of Affirmation of Commitments (AoC) obligations. The SSRT has published a draft report (<http://www.icann.org/en/news/public-comment/ssrt-draft-report-15mar12-en.htm>).
- The SSRT report stays away from technical recommendations and focuses on reviewing ICANN as an organization to manage DNS risks. The key findings are: ICANN does not have a documented DNS risk framework, nor a reasonably well-constructed security team; ICANN asks for advice from RSSAC but does not provide adequate resources to support RSSAC; ICANN does not have a good handle on risks that are not multi-year, e.g. risks in the course of several months that could have significant impact. (e.g. the upcoming ITU issues).
- The next steps for SSRT are to revise the report based on public comments and give it to ICANN Board for action. Comments both from the RSSAC as a whole or from individual members are welcomed.
- Finally, the DNS Security and Stability Analysis Working Group (DSSA) looks at risks to DNS ecosystem at large. It was chartered by ccNSO. The difficulty with this group is that they don't have resources to do a large DNS risk framework analysis. It looks like the group will have a grandiose vision but not specific enough recommendations to execute.

4. The DNS Risk Management Framework WG (Suzanne)

- Background: one of the charter items for the SSAC was to create a risk framework for the DNS, but the SSAC felt it is something they can't do. ICANN however feels very strongly about this task, so it has turned this into a staff function with direction / guidance from a Board level committee. Bill Graham from the ICANN Board chairs this Board DNS Risk Management Framework WG. The purpose is to provide guidance to staff on what they should be looking at when establishing this framework – what is within ICANN's remit and what is not. The WG had a draft charter, and held a public session in the ICANN Costa Rica meeting (<http://costarica43.icann.org/node/29709>).
- The three efforts mentioned above (DSSA, SSRT Review, Board Risk Framework WG) overlap significantly. Many people that are concerned about these issues have no technical and operational background, and they are looking for guidance from the group of people that does have the knowledge.
- Action items:
 - For SSRT Review Draft report: Matt and Johan volunteered to review.
 - For DSSA: Bill will ask the DSSA WG a focused message if there is anything specifically for RSSAC to comment on.
 - For the Board DNS Risk Framework WG: Suzanne to keep track. The Risk Framework will produce a revised document (charter) soon.

5. Root scale measurement draft (Matt / Peter)

- Suggestions were made during the original root scaling research that intelligence be gathered to predict and control the influence a growing root zone would have on root operations. The RSSAC set up a sub group working on this. The sub working group published, to the RSSAC list, a set of suggestions on a set of measurements and metrics. So far no root ops have responded.
- Actions items:
 - RSSAC to formally request each root operator to comment on 1) whether they are open in principle to provide data, and 2) if they have any comments on the draft proposal, specifically on the practicality of the metrics suggested, as well as input on how long notice ahead needed, and where the collections points should be.
 - Matt will draft the above message.
 - Peter Koch will recirculate the latest draft of the recommendations to the RSSAC list.

6. Discussion of SAC 053, ``SSAC Report on Dotless Domains'' (Matt/Peter)

- Russ (SSAC Liaison to the RSSAC) provided an overview of SAC 053: SSAC Report on Dotless Domains (www.icann.org/en/groups/ssac/documents/sac-053-en.pdf)
- Peter: the document focuses on the end user experience. It would be nice to have root operators to comment on the report, e.g. would dotless domains have impact to the root servers?
- Several commented that RSSAC did not have the resources to do the necessary research to comment on this, but it is a good chance for RSSAC visibility. Some asked whether RSSAC should wait for this policy to be implemented first before commenting.
- Steve Sheng (ICANN SSAC support) clarified that at the moment no action was taken to implement the SSAC recommendation. The SSAC has gotten some feedback on this report from other ICANN groups such as the gNSO. So in that respect, a RSSAC comment is welcomed.
- ACTION ITEMS: Peter will write some text on this for the RSSAC to consider.

7. RSSAC reorganization proposal (Terry)

- Background: Following the RSSAC review three and half years ago, there have been discussions among RSSAC members about the possibilities of restructuring the RSSAC. Lately such discussion is picked up again, and there is now a proposal circulated to the RSSAC. Terry presented this proposal.
- The RSSAC discussed several points of the proposal and highlighted the following areas for improvement:
 - The sections on RSSAC meetings need to be more precise. Is it the meeting of RSSAC executives, of the RSSAC caucus, or of the RSSAC community?

- The definition of caucus seems imprecise and could become a challenge. From SSAC's experience, both having staff support and SSAC members willing to volunteer is critical to its report production.
- Next Steps:
 - Several members liked this proposal and would like the RSSAC to consider adopting this.
 - Matt would like to see more discussions on the mailing list on this. In parallel, Bill suggested that given ICANN's structural complexity, if this group thinks it is a good idea, it should look at the ICANN calendar to see what steps need to be taken if this is to be adopted by the ICANN Board in its Prague meeting.
 - Suzanne will take up the action to arrange a phone call with interested RSSAC members and the Board members responsible for this.

8. Any other Business

- RFC 2870
 - Bill: RFC 2870, the current root server operational requirement document, is out of date and needs update. RSSAC currently has worked on a draft (rfc2870bis). The feedback is that this draft is too prescriptive. Some suggested what is needed is a more descriptive document, if the RSSAC thinks it is a good idea, a few will get together and work on this and obsolete RFC 2870.
 - Peter: If you want to obsolete 2870, there are ways to do it without writing a new document. For the successor document, there could be multiple routes to it too. There are some IETF process issues that are of concern here. For example, which working group does this belong? Would not recommend an individual submission.
 - Joao: RFC 2870 should not be an IETF document in the first place. ??
 - Terry: perhaps this could be the first RSSAC publication (RSSAC 001) and obsoletes RFC 2870. People in the room generally supported this approach.
- Next steps:
 1. A group of people gets together working on the revised document.
 2. Obsolete RFC 2870 with reference to this document.

9. The Next RSSAC meeting would be on 29 July 2012 in Vancouver, BC, Canada.