March 14, 2022
RE: Updated work plan for the RSS GWG

Maarten Botterman
Chair
ICANN Board

Dear Maarten,

Thank you for your letter of February 16, 2022. We appreciate your consent to the increase in participation by the remaining Root Server Operators (RSOs). A request has been sent via the Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC) to each of the remaining RSOs, asking them to appoint a representative by March 17, 2022.

We anticipate holding new chair elections after all of the members have been seated; this timing is in line with the previous two years' elections. We have also, as you advised, adjusted our working methods on reaching decisions by adopting a resolution to require consensus. The minutes of teleconference 40 will contain the resolution and note its approval.

On the last matter in our letter of January 17th, 2022, you wrote:

> In consideration of the GWG's note that an extension of the work plan is needed, the Board requests the GWG to provide a report about its progress in the last two years as soon as is feasible.

Below please find a timeline of the work done by the GWG since its last report to the ICANN Board, along with links to its previous reports. More complete details are, as usual, found in the minutes of the group or in the meeting recordings.

In addition to the timeline of past work, the GWG considered what work is still remaining, and so I have also included a draft work plan for the consideration of the ICANN Board.

Previous reports, setting out the work of the GWG up to each date:

- June 2020
- August 2020
- October 2020
- January 2021
- March 2021
- August 2021

As you will recall from the August 2021 report, the GWG went into abeyance while it awaited the document being produced by the RSOs, which was eventually published as RSSAC058.

Teleconference 34 was on August 5, 2021, and the GWG resumed with teleconference 35 on December 2, 2021.

During [teleconference 35](#), the GWG adopted RSSAC058 as an input document and discussed how to incorporate the success criteria specified in RSSAC058 into its work. As part of that discussion, the GWG began discussing potential charter adjustments to incorporate the views of each RSO individually, which matter was carried over to the next meeting.

During [teleconference 36](#), the GWG continued discussions about potential adjustments to its charter. Three options were discussed: no change; including a representative from each RSO and requiring consensus; opening the meetings to observers. After discussion, there was a general preference for including a representative from each RSO and no blocking objections. The chair was assigned an action to draft a letter to the ICANN Board seeking its approval of this change. The GWG agreed to continue to meet and discuss the incorporation of RSSAC058 while it awaited the answer of the ICANN Board.

During [teleconference 37](#), the GWG discussed and approved the draft letter to the ICANN Board, which was transmitted on January 17, 2022. The RSS GWG also discussed the delta between RSSAC037 and RSSAC058 and began a section by section review of RSSAC058, discussing each.

During [teleconference 38](#), the GWG continued its section by section review of RSSAC058 and discussed how to manage tensions which might arise among different criteria.

During [teleconference 39](#), the GWG reviewed the ICANN Board letter and agreed on the following next steps: to seek the participation of each RSO; to prepare a resolution updating the working methods of the group to require consensus; to prepare a potential revision of the work plan. It also reviewed and agreed to an updated plan for chair elections in light of these actions.

During [teleconference 40](#), the GWG reviewed the appointment letter sent to RSSAC seeking new members from those RSOs not already participating. It then approved the resolution updating of the working methods of the group to require consensus. After that, it discussed how the work plan might evolve and agree to transmit the proposal below to the ICANN Board. Lastly, it began the drafting process for this letter.

The proposed work plan discussed by the RSS GWG, for your review is:

Month and Year (ICANN Public Meeting)	Work Item
March 2022 (ICANN73)	Effect membership changes
April 2022	Elect new chair, review source documents
May 2022	Review current proposal

June 2022 (ICANN74)	Review current proposal
July 2022	Develop revised proposal
August 2022	Develop revised proposal
September 2022 (ICANN75)	Develop revised proposal
October 2022	Develop revised proposal
November 2022	Conduct briefings/webinars
December 2022	Begin Public Comment
January 2023	End Public Comment
February 2023	Consider Public Comment
March 2023 (ICANN76)	Consider and submit proposal

My thanks for your attention,

Best regards,

Ted Hardie
Chair
RSS GWG