



# Independent Review of the DNS Root Server System Advisory Committee

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Independent Reviewer's Report:

<http://bit.ly/o6Mh>

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# Who we are



**Richard Westlake**  
Managing Director

Governance specialist  
and experienced  
board chair



**Vaughan Renner**  
Consultant

Engineer and  
former technology  
chief executive



**Colin Jackson**  
Consultant

Technologist and  
former ccTLD  
president



**Andy Linton**  
Consultant

Internet engineer,  
university lecturer,  
Irish musician

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# What people told us

*RSSAC is a mostly a Kabuki play that merely parrots what has already been decided within the root-ops closed meetings.*

On RSSAC providing advice that challenges role of RSOps:  
*It would be like turkeys voting for Christmas*

*Getting an opinion from RSSAC is like pulling teeth*

*Most of the ICANN Board is non-technical and believes that any technical problem can be solved with money - RSSAC member*

*It would take a change in culture to get RSSAC to forward contrasting views - they only put forward a view if there is consensus.*

*Does RSSAC actually exist?*



# What did we find out?

- RSSAC has done good work e.g. on IDNs, IPv6, DNSSEC...
- But: RSSAC has not fulfilled part of its role as set out in Bylaws
  - Issues relating to location and number of servers overtaken by events
  - Parts of RSSAC's purpose are seen as RSOPs' responsibility
- Has not fulfilled its own 1999 agenda either
- Observation: RSSAC section of ICANN website needs serious work



# What else did we find out?

- Committee membership set out in Bylaws but in practice it's "whoever happens to be in town"
- Agenda management - reacts to issues
- Committee is resource poor
- Consensus is difficult for current group
- Procedures - what procedures?
  - Planning
  - Chair selection
  - Succession
  - Transparency

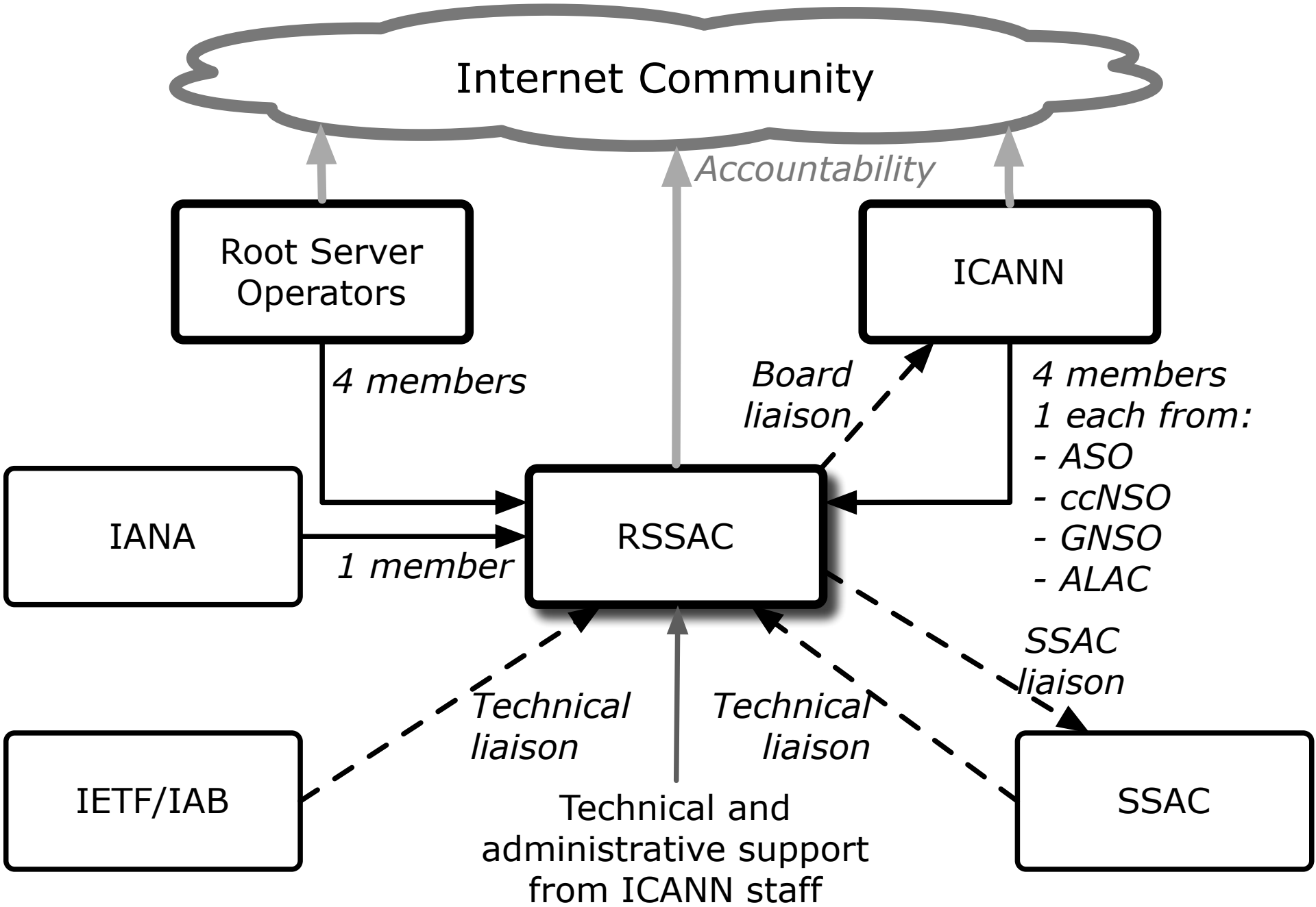


# Options for Change

1. Status quo
2. Abolish RSSAC
3. Convert to ICANN Supporting Organization
4. Refocus RSSAC and add staff support
5. Reinvent RSSAC as joint strategy group

# *“The RSSAC Reloaded”*

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# How should it work?

- Membership
  - Most important factor: technical knowledge
  - 4 from RSOs, 1 IANA, 4 from ICANN
- ICANN to provide staff support
  - Technical fellow
  - Administrative support
- Liaisons
  - Inward: IETF/IAB, SSAC
  - Outward: Board, SSAC
- Should meet at ICANN in open session



# Where to from here?

- Report is now with Review Working Group
  - Harald Alvestrand
  - Steve Crocker
  - Bruce Tonkin
- Public comment
- Board decision at a future meeting



Gracias

謝謝

Merci

Danke schön

شكرا لك

спасибо

Go raibh maith agat

ありがとうございました

Thank you