
ICANN79 | CF – How it Works Session #4
Saturday, March 3, 2024 – 1:15 to 2:30 SJU

NICOLAS ANTONIELLO: Hello and welcome back. My name is Nicolas Antonielli and I will be doing the role of participation manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and it's governed by the ICANN expected standards of behavior. During this session, questions or comments will only be read out loud if submitted within the Q&A pod. If you would like to speak during this session, please raise your hand in Zoom.

When called upon, virtual participants will be given permission to unmute your Zoom. On-site participants will use a physical mic to speak. Interpretation for this session will include English, French, Arabic, and Spanish. Please state your name for the record and the language you will speak if speaking a language other than English, and please speak at a reasonable pace. With that, I hand the floor back to Adiel Akplogan.

ADIEL AKPLOGAN: Thank you, Nico. I think we end the previous session with reviewing and going through the website and what kind of self-assessments we can do and the material and the support that the website provides. So, during the coming hour or the number of questions we receive, we will hear from you. If you have questions or feedback or anything related to the KINDNS initiative, feel free. We still have this session to work on that.

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So, the floor is yours. I think there is a hand online, and if there is anything, feel free to shout.

RODNEY TAYLOR:

Thank you. Good afternoon. Excellent presentation. Rodney Taylor, CTU, and I just wanted to find out how often these practices are updated, and also, you mentioned the clinics here at ICANN79, but outside of these meetings, what are the opportunities for operators, certainly from the Caribbean and other regions, to benefit from this capacity building that you're doing here? Thank you.

ADIEL AKPLOGAN:

Yeah, thank you. To answer the first question, our intention is to regularly update the practice based on the feedback from the community. So, for now, I know that we have looked at a few feedback, and we have two practices, I think, in the pipe to implement and add to this. So, once we add, that will be like, KINDNS, like, version 2000 and whatever. So, that will allow people who already joined the program and get themselves assessed and then qualify for the implementation to reassess themselves against those new practices when it comes. But we want it to come from the community. Really, we want all the practice to evolve based on input from the community.

The first round we did with the community, we got a technical group of people to look at the practice and to streamline them, because there is a work to do there. That has happened, but really what we want is to build a stronger community around it that will provide us input to go forward. As for the opportunity for training and capacity building in the

region, really, we will be very happy to do that, and Nicolas here is covering the region. If you are interested, really get in touch with him. He will work with you, set up a plan to do this over the coming month.

We try to have a workshop around the KINDNS practice specifically for the NS operators, but we also have programs that focus on only one practice for the DNSSEC, for signing, for instance. That practice alone can cover a whole week of workshop. So, there are those kinds of engagements that we can have with you, but working with the regional team, Albert, with him, I would be more than happy to support you.

NICOLAS ANTONIELLO:

To add a little bit to what Adiel said, there are also two resources to answer the first question, to add to what Adiel said. Adiel also mentioned earlier today, there's a mailing list. It doesn't have a lot of traffic, so it's a low-traffic mailing list, but the invitation is for everyone willing to be part of contribute to the program to join that mailing list, and one of the things that one can do through that mailing list is, for example, discussing the actual or future good practices that should be in place. For example, if someone says that, oh, this is something that it has become or it's becoming a good practice, you should put it as part of the program. It should be part of the self-assessment.

We can discuss it through that list, and it could perfectly end up being part of the self-assessment when we do the second round of revision and updating the self-assessment. The program is designed so as to be a live thing, not static, so we can update it according to the input from the community, especially, but not restricted to, especially the

operators' community, but anyone can participate in a personal capacity or as a part of an operator.

The mailing list is open to everybody, and also, as part of our capacity building programs that we have in OCTO Team group, in the technical engagement team, we are starting to begin our capacity building programs with KINDNS, with this program, with inviting all the technicians and all the operators attending the capacity building to perform the self-assessment and then work from there. By doing that, what we can do is, that enables us to work with them specifically in the fields that they are not yet implementing, that they need to understand better in order to decide if and when they are implementing that.

The idea is that we have a big pool of capacity building sessions that we can give, and KINDNS is becoming more and more the first thing that we go through before getting into the technical details of the capacity building. We can arrange to do some labs. We have also developed a lab infrastructure, which is not a simulator. It's a real lab on the real internet, and we have performed, we developed that during the pandemic as a consequence of the need to provide remote lab capabilities to continue to give capacity building and training during the pandemic and the impossibility of leaving our homes or our offices.

That platform has evolved and it's still evolving to a tool that can be used by us and by the technicians attending the capacity building to perform things like routing practices, things like DNS configuration practices, configuring a DNS resolver from scratch, configuring a DNS authoritative server from scratch, implementing DNSSEC, QNAME minimization, all of the good practices that are within the KINDNS

program, all of the good practices that are within the manners program, and beyond. We've also done this capacity building programs in joint with other organizations like the RIRs.

We've done it along with LACNIC for Latin America and the Caribbean. We've also done it with ARIN, with CaribNOG, and with NANOG for North America and the part of the Caribbean that falls within NANOG and ARIN and so on. So, we can perfectly arrange and build in joint a capacity building program that suits the needs of that specific group. So, I hope that serves as a further explanation. Yeah, we have some questions in the chat, in the Q&A. Let me read some of those. So, Dr. Adebunmi is asking, is it possible to have this training virtually as part of the Nigeria DNS Forum? Also, we would appreciate if you could share some of your experience with us.

ADIEL AKPLOGAN:

The answer is just yes. And Yazid will be happy to help you down there. Feel free to get in touch. So, for those who don't know, Yazid is the technical engagement support team for Africa. Africa and Middle East. So, he will be more than happy to support you and provide a virtual session on KINDNS during your upcoming -- just get in touch with him or with anyone from GSE or Simon or anyone in the region and they will do it. I'll let them know about your interest as well. Thanks.

NICOLAS ANTONIELLO:

And also, because someone asked about the possibility of getting a KINDNS t-shirt and a hat, Yazid will bring some to those capacity buildings.

ADIEL AKPLOGAN: Yeah, sure.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I have a question. From the assessment, I had the impression that all the practices are weighted equally. I might understand why, but it's not a good, let's say, best practice for people to know what's next for them. I think one good option would be to understand, like having a benchmark against their peers. So, what their peers are doing that I'm not doing or applying a level of difficulty of implementation of that specific practice, so that they understand. If it's easy, then why not. It's an easy thing, why not? The more difficult ones, maybe leave for later. But it's good to have that prioritization explained, so that people don't look at the checklist of 10 things to do and don't know and they are a bit lost on what to do next.

ADIEL AKPLOGAN: Very good feedback. Thank you very much. I think it will be useful. The practice all don't have the same weight, though. For instance, I know that the DNSSEC related practice has, like, it's 20 and ODA has 10. But we haven't done a good job explaining and giving the detail of the weight of the different practice on each category. And I think that will be very, very important. And as you mentioned, to help people define their priorities. And if they know that this practice weights higher, but why it weights higher and why it is important to implement that, that would be good. But if you look at the report, you will see that some

weight more than the others, but not explain exactly why. And that's good feedback. Thanks.

NICOLAS ANTONIELLO:

To add to the excellent feedback, thanks again for that and to what Adiel said on the benchmarking among the pairs that are doing more or less the same. The idea behind the dashboard, which is there, which has some of the good practices and anonymizes and summarizes percentage of those that took the self-assessment for each category.

It's an attempt of approaching what you already said. Besides that, it's excellent feedback. And by the way, that's the kind of feedback that we are seeking through the mailing list and through the feedback from the community. So, thanks again very much for that. And yes, we should work in the next version when we can explain as Adiel was saying, explain better why each of the weights and maybe modify some weights. Maybe some of the good practices, as you mentioned, are more important or which are the first one you should go for and the second one and the third one. So, give them an order for the people to know how to read those and how to implement and work on that. So, thanks again very much for the feedback.

ADIEL AKPLOGAN:

The dashboard doesn't have the information yet. We don't publish the statistic yet on the dashboard because we collect them. It's on the presentation, but it's not public yet. So, that is also something that we -because the publication of the dashboard on the website has to go through some internal process before we are able to public them for

people consumption in general. But that will help the benchmarking, of course, definitely. And when we reach that point, we will be able to publish it.

NICOLAS ANTONIELLO: It looks like there are no more questions in the Q&A pod nor in the room. Okay, go on.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I have another note. I know that this is not global, but in Europe, there's the new needs to directive that you may know about, which is trying to make the critical infrastructures and critical operations at national level more resilient. And I think this framework for KINDNS could be a good thing to share in all the forums that relate to the NIS2 directive, because this is a framework that will allow the operators to follow and to upgrade their security, which will be a checkmark in their NIS2 journey.

ADIEL AKPLOGAN: Clearly, and that is one of, it's part of our goal for this to be used in different forum, because at least it gives people clarity. Like you say, it's a check box. They can say, I check this, I do this, I know I have implemented, and we will be happy to discuss. We presented in Europe in several places. We haven't pushed it to the NIST or to the European Union, but I think operators in the region can be promoter of that in their interaction as well with those entities who say, this is a framework that is already there, that has been developed, that has inputs from the

operators, and we want to use it as at least the first step of assessing what we are doing to match the security.

And there is actually a very positive example in that same direction in Brazil, where they have, they are trying to use the KINDNS framework as a framework for the operators. So, they direct them to KINDNS to do that, and that is the feedback, the outcome of the excellent job that Daniel and Nico have done in Brazil, and it can be done everywhere. It's out there for the community to use, and that's what we want. It is support back, and we will continue providing the resources to evolve it, but we want the operator's community to take it to them, it's their thing, it's your thing, go promote it. If you need our support, we'll come support, but community, community, let it flow, but yeah, good.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER:

We have another one. Have you thought about creating like a book or something for them, with all these best practices for different kinds of operators, and publishing it in different languages, because it could be useful.

ADIEL AKPLOGAN:

Yeah, we can publish it as a document, yes, it can be an OCTO document on critical DNS operation practice, yeah. We have a, I don't know if you have seen it, we have published two years ago a guideline for DNS development with a checklist and everything, which has been very successful for many operators, so we can do the same thing for KINDNS, and make it available for people to reuse. I think you mentioned something that I want to react on beside the publication.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Publishing it in a different language.

ADIEL AKPLOGAN: Oh yeah, the language, it's part of the next step of the program, we are working with our internal language service to actually translate the website, the self-assessment tool, and the guideline in different language, so it's the next step of the thing. We have got, actually, two people who are volunteers on the waiting list from Japan, so Japan wants to do the same thing, to have it translated in Japanese, so the translation is kind of the next big thing that we want to do about this, but yeah, resources, we are going step by step, and we'll appreciate all support as well from you guys to get that done.

NICOLAS ANTONIELLO: Okay, thanks again, everybody, for staying with us, for the questions, and for the feedback, that was excellent, excellent feedback, really excellent feedback, thanks very much, the recording can stop now, and the session is adjourned, thanks. Yes, thank you, and feel free to contact us throughout the week as well, if you have any questions. Bye.

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