
ABU DHABI – RZERC Public Meeting
Wednesday, November 1, 2017 – 14:00 to 15:00 GST
ICANN60 | Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: November 1, 2017, RZERC Public Meeting in Capital Suite 14.
Scheduled start time is 14 o'clock.

DUANE WESSELS: Alright, I think we're pretty close to getting started here. The previous meeting has just sort of recently cleared out. It looks like everyone is sitting.

So I'd like to welcome everyone to the first public meeting of RZERC, the Root Zone Evolution Review Committee. We're meeting here in Abu Dhabi. We have a few online participants and a few of us in the room. The first thing on the agenda is I'm going to ask the RZERC members here to introduce themselves. Jim, can we start with you, please? Now that you've got a mouth full of food. Sorry.

JIM REID: Thank you, Duane. I'm Jim Reid, I am the IETF representative from RZERC, and I've got a mouth full of food.

Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.

PETER KOCH: My name is Peter Koch, I work for DNIC and I'm the ccNSO representative on the team.

BRAD VERD: This is Brad Verd, Verisign, and I am the RSSAC representative on the team.

DUANE WESSELS: I'm Duane Wessels, I work for Verisign, and I'm the root zone maintainer appointee to RZERC. Jaap is here.

JAAP AKKERHUIS: I'm the public. I am actually Jaap Akkerhuis from -- oh, there's another one -- Jaap Akkerhuis from NLnet Labs. I'm actually interested in what became of RZERC since I was in all the meetings at the group conversation and in meetings where this was born as being a committee. So I'm just curious.

DUANE WESSELS: And I forget, the participants can't -- we can't hear them, right? The remote participants? We can? Howard, can you introduce yourself? Are you able? {AUDIO BREAK}

Maybe I should just say that Howard Eland is the appointee from the GNSO, he's online. And we have some other RZERC members who are not here.

MARIO ALEMAN: This is Mario. Yes, we can hear you, Howard.

DUANE WESSELS: All right. Thank you, Howard. We've just been joined by Kaveh. Kaveh, we're just doing introductions, so would you happily introduce yourself for us?

KAVEH RANJBAR: Thank you very much. Kaveh Ranjbar, board delegate to RSSAC.

DUANE WESSELS: And then that leaves two other RZERC members, Carlos Martinez is the appointee from the ASO, and Kim Davies is the appointee from PTI.

So next, we have sort of a slide deck to go through, providing an update on RZERC. Oh, sorry; would you like to introduce yourself?

ALEXANDRA KULIKOVA: Absolutely. I'm not just a member of RZERC. I'm Alexandra Kulikova, I'm ICANN Staff, Global Stakeholder and Engagement Division.

DUANE WESSELS: Thank you. So that's everyone in the room, except for Steve and Mario, who were too shy to introduce themselves. Also, ICANN Staff supporting RZERC.

Next, we'll move on to the update, and I guess someone will do the slides? {AUDIO BREAK}

All right, thanks. So this is the RZERC meeting. Let's go to the next slide.

Just a summary of what we're going to cover today, an overview. We have a slide deck. We have a slide on the membership, which at this point I think everyone has heard who the members are and who they're representing. We'll talk about some of the things that we've been working on with respect to our procedures and our charter, including types of meetings, the ways that RZERC is transparent, and ways that we consider proposals from the community. And lastly, a couple of slides on things we've been working on recently. Next, please.

So on this overview slide, this text is really lifted directly from the charter, and it describes what RZERC is. The key point is that this committee is intended to review proposed architectural changes to the content of the DNS Root Zone and the systems including hardware and software, and so on. RZERC provides advice and information, both to the board of directors and to

the community, on topics that are related to the root zone evolution of the internet. Next, please.

The figure on this slide is something that's been going around in various groups, including RSSAC, and SSAC, and I guess now RZERC. And this shows, approximately, where the delineation is between things that RZERC works on and things that RSSAC works on. You can see these colored boxes, they sort of proceed from left to right, beginning with TLD operators, who make change requests to the IANA function. And the IANA function forwards those updates and those changes onto the root zone maintainer. And then the root zone maintainer produces a root zone that gets distributed out to the root zone operators, depicted here with the boxes with the letters and the Anycast sites. Then on the far right, we have DNS resolvers making enquires and getting responses.

This is just a helpful graphic to show where the delineation lies. You see this squiggly line there dividing the halves of this document, and that's intentional to convey the idea that it's not necessarily a hard and fast division. There is some overlap and some uncertainty there in exactly which sides certain things fall on. Next slide, please.

One of the things that we talk a lot about, and expect to get asked about, are what sort of things are in scope and out of

scope for RZERC? And as some examples, day-to-day routine TLD changes are definitely out of scope for RZERC. This happens, as a matter of course, has been happening for years, and years, and years, and that's not something that RZERC gets involved in, or is expected to get involved in.

An example of something that has happened in the past, but would be within RZERC's scope if it were to happen today, would be significant deployment of new DNS protocol features, such as DNSSEC to the root zone, as happened in 2010. And we have some more examples of in scope and out of scope things later on in this slide deck. Please?

Here's the table showing the composition of the committee at this point in time. We've made our introductions, and you can visit that URL down there at the bottom any time to get the current membership information if you would like to. Next?

Types of meetings is something that we worked on recently with our procedures document and RZERC. We were holding three types of meetings. Regular meetings are where attendance is normally restricted to RZERC members only, and held to conduct the work of RZERC. We've been having these monthly. For the last eight or so months, we've been, as I said, working on procedures, and a couple of other things, so we've been relatively kept busy with that.

Public meetings, of which this is the very first example, are used to present the work of RZERC, and to engage the broader community. We expect these would be held at ICANN meetings, as we are here, or perhaps IETF meetings as well.

Lastly, from time to time, we anticipate that there may be need for, what we call, an executive meeting, which would be used to discuss confidential matters. These are described in the procedures document in a little more detail if you're curious about that. Next please, Mario.

Now, even though RZERC's meetings are normally restricted only to members, RZERC does strive for transparency, and the recordings from those meetings are posted on the RZERC website as soon as they become available. Additionally, the minutes are posted. The minutes are actually on a little bit of a delay, because what we do is, we review the minutes and approve them at the following meeting, and then at that point, they are posted to the website.

There's a mailing list archive, which is open. The link to that mailing list archive is now also posted on the RZERC website, if you scroll down there's a section that says, I think, Archives and Documents, or something; you'll find it there. And again, back the idea of executive meetings, the chair has the ability to decide

on publishing confidential discussions, or sensitive topics, during the executive sessions. Next.

So Consideration of Proposals. This is RZERC's purpose, to receive proposals and evaluate them. And this is what our procedures says, that any issues or proposals raised to the community should be received from PTI staff, or the Customer Standing Committee, or any of the RZERC members. There's a list of expectations here about what such proposals should include, the issues and proposed changes, the potential impact to the DNS root zone, any expectations of timelines, you know, is this something urgent or not urgent, and of course, supporting documentation.

Upon receiving such proposals, the committee will convene and deliberate on the proposal. And the first step is to determine whether or not the proposal or the issue falls within RZERC's charter, and that it is indeed architectural in nature. In the cases where such proposals are within the charter -- I'm sorry, if the proposal does not fall within the charter, then RZERC is expected to say why and politely decline. And in the cases where it does, then the committee engages in further consultations and meetings and so on. I want to note also that in such cases, in such deliberations, RZERC always has the option to invite outside experts in to advise them and participate in some of these meetings. Next, please.

So RZERC's big accomplishment to date has been its Operational Procedures document, which we worked on for quite a number of months. That has been approved and published on the website as of September. As I said, meetings and other updates and documents are listed on the website. And since completing the procedures, we've been conducting a hypothetical evaluation of potential topics and scenarios that we think might come RZERC's way in the future. The purpose of this is to guide the committee when considering future proposals, and also to, as a little reality check, to make sure that everyone is on the same page with things that are in scope and out of scope for RZERC. Next, please.

So we wanted to share a few specific things that we've been discussing in that exercise of evaluating potential topics. One is the issue of the question of the location of root server instances, and there is a strong feeling that this is entirely out of scope for RZERC. Another is changes to the set of metrics, and these metrics are currently defined by an RSSAC document, RSSAC002. So changes to this set of metrics that root server operators are expected to publish, and we have agreement that something like this is out of scope.

One topic that, at this point, is a little bit less certain is, should there be another round of new gTLDs expected to increase the size of the root zone by say a thousand TLDs; would such a

proposal, or such an issue, be in scope or out of scope? We did not come to an agreement on that. Although we have not fully had the time yet to discuss it within our meetings. At this point, it's just been a very cursory survey of opinions, and in the future, we will talk about this and other topics in much more depth.

Lastly, one more -- go back, Mario, please. One last example is a change to the naming scheme of root servers, which is something that has also come up within the RSSAC context. And within RZERC, we had an agreement that this is something that is in scope. Okay, next.

So the last slide just here has the website for RZERC, which again, you can find all these documents that we've been talking about, and if you have any questions at this point about RZERC, please contact Mario, who is the primary support staff for the committee.

That's the end of this presentation, and now we'd like to have a Q&A session if there are any questions. I need to unlock my laptop and see if there are any questions in Adobe. [AUDIO BREAK]

Okay, I'm not seeing or hearing any questions. Does anyone else... no? Okay. Oh, somebody's typing. Again, happy to take questions from you at a later date via Mario, as his email address

is posted here. And with that, I'd like to thank everyone for participating in RZERC's first public meeting.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]