

ICANN BOARD SUBMISSION NO. 2013.11.21.2e

TITLE: DNS Risk Management Framework Report and Implementation
PROPOSED ACTION: For Board Consideration

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The DNS Risk Management Framework Report was posted for public comment (see <http://www.icann.org/en/groups/other/dns-risk-mgmt/draft-final-19aug13-en.pdf>), following consultation session with the community at the ICANN meeting in Beijing and Durban. The framework is intended to provide a tool to assist ICANN in understanding risks to the availability, consistency or integrity of the DNS within ICANN's role and remit and guidance for ICANN and the community in mitigating risks in these areas.

Public comment was received from four organizations and individuals. The summary and analysis of comments was posted at <http://www.icann.org/en/news/public-comment/report-comments-dns-rmf-final-18oct13-en.pdf>.

Staff has reviewed the Report and recommends that the Board direct staff to proceed with implementation. The DNS Risk Management Framework Working Group has now completed its work, and on-going oversight is being transitioned to the Board Risk Committee.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board accept the DNS Risk Management Framework Report and direct staff to proceed with implementation as part of its overall risk management activities. Staff recommends that the Board Risk Committee be tasked with oversight of the implementation and that the DNS Risk Management Framework Working Group be closed.

DRAFT RESOLUTION:

Whereas, on 28 October 2011, the Board formed a DNS Risk Management Framework Working Group to oversee the development of a risk management framework for the DNS as it pertains to ICANN's role and remit as found in the ICANN Bylaws.

Whereas, the Working Group supported by ICANN staff developed a risk management framework, with input from the ICANN community, which was presented at the ICANN Beijing meeting and updated following the ICANN Durban meeting.

Whereas, staff has reviewed the framework and community input, and is prepared to move ahead with implementation.

Whereas, the Board thanks the members of the DNS Risk Management Framework Working Group for their efforts over the past two years, and directs that the working group be closed. Oversight of staff implementation will transition to the Board Risk Committee.

Resolved (2013.11.21.xx), the Board directs staff to proceed with implementation of the DNS Risk Management Framework and report back to the Board Risk Committee as needed on the risk assessment and proposed mitigation measures.

RATIONALE:

In October 2011, the Board created a working group to develop a risk management framework for the DNS as it pertains to ICANN's role as defined in the ICANN Bylaws (see <http://www.icann.org/en/groups/board/documents/resolutions-28oct11-en.htm#1.8>). The DNS Risk Management Framework Working Group (DNS RMF WG) was formed, consisting of Bill Graham (Chair), Patrik Fältström, Roelof Meijer, Ram Mohan, Ray Plzak, Bill Woodcock, and Suzanne Woolf.

The Board approved the Charter for the Working Group on 12 March 2012 (<http://www.icann.org/en/groups/board/documents/resolutions-16mar12-en.htm#1.6>).

The Working Group held public workshops at the ICANN meetings in Prague and Toronto. Westlake Governance was selected following an RFP for a DNS risk management consultant. Westlake developed a draft framework following the Toronto meeting, and presented a draft framework for community review after the ICANN meeting in Beijing.

A public comment process was conducted on the DNS risk management framework from 23 August to 5 October 2013. Information on the public comment process is

available at <http://www.icann.org/en/news/public-comment/dns-rmf-final-23aug13-en.htm>.

The framework uses ISO 31000 as a platform but includes elements learned from the work of the community-driven DNS Security & Stability Analysis Working Group (DSSA). Staff has suggested that more of the work pioneered by the DSSA be incorporated into the implementation of the framework, as this has community support and provides some practical guidance for considering threats to the DNS within ICANN's role and remit. The Westlake report acknowledges that "one size does not fit all" and requires adaptation to best meet the needs of the organization.

Staff has completed its review of the framework and is proceeding with implementation. A risk assessment is to be conducted using the framework as a guide, and merged into existing enterprise risk management practices at ICANN. Staff is to report on progress to the Board Risk Committee. The DNS RMF Working Group has now completed its work and can be closed.

Implementation of the DNS risk management framework supports ICANN's on-going completion of the Security, Stability and Resiliency Review Team recommendations and prior resolutions of the Board to develop a security framework for Internet naming and address allocation services. This work is intended to have a positive impact on the community and provide greater awareness of overall risk management within ICANN's role in facilitating the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet's unique identifiers. This risk management framework is not intended to have a fiscal impact on the organization or community.

This is an Organizational Administrative Function for which public comment has been received.

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Date Noted: 12 November 2013

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