
Public Comment Summary Report

Root Zone Update Process Study

Open for Submissions Date:

Monday, 14 March 2022

Closed for Submissions Date:

Monday, 25 April 2022 (extended to Friday, 29 April 2022)

Summary Report Due Date:

Friday, 13 May 2022 (extended to Monday, 16 May 2022)

Category:

Operations

Requester:

ICANN org

ICANN org Contact(s):

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Open Proceeding Link:

<https://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/proceeding/root-zone-update-process-study-14-03-2022>

Outcome:

ICANN org thanks the contributors for their thoughtful inputs to this Public Comment proceeding. The org has considered and analyzed the inputs, which will be incorporated in the final version of the study report.

Section 1: What We Received Input On

The objectives of the Root Zone Update Process Study were to

- investigate whether there is a need to increase (and if so, how) the robustness of the operational arrangements for making changes to the root zone content,
- identify any single points of failure that may exist and,
- should they exist, offer recommendations on how to reduce or eliminate them.

The scope of the study is the processing of change requests to the DNS root zone. The study provider looked for opportunities to improve the overall architecture and process along several dimensions: efficiency, robustness, conformance to policies established by the ICANN community, and confidentiality.

ICANN org requested community review of the initial version of the study report.

Section 2: Submissions

Organizations and Groups:

Name	Submitted by	Initials
Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG)	publiccomments@rysg.info	RySG

Individuals:

Name	Affiliation (if provided)	Initials
Dr. Stephen Crocker		SC

Section 3: Summary of Submissions

RySG and SC both expressed general agreement with the report while offering opinions about specific portions/topics:

SC: This is a nice piece of work. It covers a lot of ground. It is a very positive report, finding no big problems and offering a few specific recommendations for further improvement. I agree IANA does an excellent job. That said, there are areas that can be improved

RySG: The Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) thanks JAS and IANA for the comprehensive study of the Root Zone Update Process and well-considered report... Overall, we find general agreement with the set of recommendations. While we don't disagree with the recommendations we do want to note that not all of them may be necessary and some could have some unintended consequences.

RySG suggested that several of the report recommendations should be considered "optional" to avoid unintended consequences.

SC stated that *it would be helpful to have a section that introduces the IANA operation and the Root Zone Update Process.*

SC recommended that *the authority and responsibility of each defined role should be documented explicitly, perhaps in the form of [a table].*

SC recommended that ICANN/IANA *initiate a study on how to fortify the root zone update process against an abrupt, forceful, out of policy change to the root zone [such as Government interaction]*

SC recommended that *the RZERC should be invoked to study glue record coordination and recommend improvements.*

SC made several additional detailed recommendations that agreed with and amplified portions of the report.

Section 4: Analysis of Submissions

The comments were in general agreement with the report. The additional studies recommended by SC will be considered by ICANN org at a future point.

Section 5: Next Steps

ICANN org anticipates no material changes to the report as a result of the Public Comments. JAS will make minor updates throughout the report addressing items from the Public Comments. JAS will survey the Root Server Operators as suggested by SC and will include those results as an Appendix.