



27 April 2023

Subject: SSAC2023-06: SSAC Response to GNSO Transfer Policy Review Working Group on Group 2 Topics

To: GNSO Support Staff <gns0-secs@icann.org>

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the security aspects of the current Transfer Policy Review Working Group (TPR WG) Group 2 Topics.^{1,2} The primary focus of the TPR WG is on the details of how transfers are carried out, including how to detect errors or disputes and how to correct them. The process that is emerging seems to be reasonable.

The SSAC wishes to comment on some related security issues, which we include here as placeholders for future work.

1. The SSAC has previously commented on the negative impact to a domain's resolution (and thus a registrant's ability to use the domain name) that can occur when a registration is transferred. These issues are exacerbated when a domain is signed with DNSSEC. SSAC accepts that consideration of these issues is outside the scope of this working group.

Although DNS hosting and DNSSEC issues are not in scope at this time, the SSAC has been investigating what is needed at both registrars and DNS service providers in order to better support the security and transfer of DNS hosting and DNSSEC services of a domain name. We stand ready to address this issue more carefully with registrars in the future.

2. In addition, the SSAC would like to add that part of the overall security model for a transfer should include additional security features provided by a registrar and executed by a registrant. SAC040 "Measures to Protect Domain Registration Services Against

¹ See Community Input wiki page for GNSO Transfer Policy Review Policy Development Process Working Group, <https://community.icann.org/display/TPRPDP/Community+Input>

² See Group 2 Charter Questions - Letter requesting early input from SO/AC/SG/Cs, <https://community.icann.org/download/attachments/167543988/Transfer%20Policy%20Review%20PDP%20-%20Request%20for%20Early%20Input%20on%20Group%202%20Topics%20.pdf?version=1>

Exploitation or Misuse” has a number of recommendations for registrars to consider if they seek to make the registrant’s account at the registrar more secure. SAC044 “A Registrant’s Guide to Protecting Domain Name Registration Accounts” has a number of questions and issues for registrant’s to consider when evaluating the security features available at a registrar.

We appreciate having been able to participate in this work. The SSAC remains available for related work in the future.

Rod Rasmussen
Chair, ICANN Security and Stability Advisory Committee