Dear CCWG,

Thank you for extending the comment period for us. We had a lively discussion, but did not reach much consensus. Please find below comments from the Root Server System Advisory Committee to your Accountability Draft Proposal.

Best regards,
On behalf of RSSAC
/Lars-Johan Liman
RSSAC co-chair

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5 June 2015

RSSAC has reviewed the CCWG-Accountability Work Stream 1 Draft Report. We have no consensus comments on the substance of the CCWG proposal at this point, as we understand the purpose of the CCWG-Accountability group's efforts but find the impacts of the current proposal difficult to evaluate.

We do note that in the past, the purpose of RSSAC was to act in an advisory role to the ICANN board and community. RSSAC is happy to continue in its role as an advisory body. However, the proposal from the CWG also places additional responsibilities and requirements upon RSSAC that need careful consideration. As a specific observation, some RSSAC members are uncomfortable with the membership mechanism proposed as long as RSSAC is structured as a board appointed committee under the current charter. RSSAC currently has no plans or capacity to undertake a re-structuring that would eliminate this concern. In order to create a positive consensus view in RSSAC about the CCWG proposal we need to know a great deal more about the implementation and operation of the structures and procedures it discusses. As a specific point, we surmise that formal action by the members would be rare, not likely in the course of normal operations and decisionmaking in ICANN, but it would help us to have that view confirmed.

We note that the proposed bylaws revision (p. 20) includes a placeholder for language relating to the root server system in an updated description of ICANN's mission. We expect to contribute proposed language on this point as the process of revising the bylaws proceeds.