

Department of Computer Science  
Thursday, 4 November 2010

### **Comments on ICANN's SSR plan for FY11**

As an active DNS Researcher since 2001, I submit the following comments on this plan:

The report uses a lot of space to say what ICANN does, but it's full of phrases like "play a role in." There's little attempt to state actual goals, or how we might measure how well those goals are being achieved. I feel that the plan would be stronger if it incorporated some actual measurement and monitoring!

Recently I read "Measuring the Helath of the Domain Name System," 3 February 1020, the report of an ICANN-sponsored conference in Kyoto. That conference seems to have attempted to define what "health" might mean in the DNS context; although it listed many DNS metrics that we know how to measure, it was not able to pin down what "DNS Health" should mean to Researchers or Service Providers, much less to ordinary Internet users.

Among the global Internet Research Community there are many DNS measurement projects in progress. I believe that this community wishes to be part of wider-scale efforts to improve understanding of DNS behaviour. To that end, I'd like to see ICANN devote some real effort to supporting DNS research, and working with the Research Community to ensure that its research outcomes are deployed and used to improve DNS service at all levels (not just at the TLD level). I'm sure the Research community would welcome the opportunity to be involved.

Sincerely, Nevil Brownlee



Nevil Brownlee  
Associate Professor, Data Networks  
The University of Auckland

New Zealand