

Dear Trustees,

First, I am again happy to note that there were no appeals received by the IAB at the time of writing.

In our last report, the IAB noted that it was in the process of selecting a new liaison to the ICANN Board. Harald Alvestrand was selected by the portion of the IAB not recused, and he and Jonne Soininen are currently sharing information as they run up to the change-over together.

You can always find the documents the IAB has adopted and is working on at <https://datatracker.ietf.org/stream/iab>. Three new documents may be of interest to the Board:

draft-iab-path-signals, which explores the impact of encryption on the availability of network signals to on-path devices and documents ways forward for desirable signals;

draft-iab-protocol-maintenance, which describes the harmful impact of Jon Postel's robustness principle when poorly applied;

draft-trammell-wire-image, which describes the characteristic information available to an on-path observer of a protocol exchange beyond that which might be inherent in the protocol specification.

In addition to these, the IAB published a short updated statement on the RPKI, noting that operational experience on the use of a single trust anchor had not matched the original advice and that the IAB believes the system can function with multiple trust anchors. Comments from members of the board on any of these documents are, of course, encouraged.

I would also like to draw the attention of the Trustees to three meetings at the upcoming IETF which are particularly relevant to the IAB. The first of these is a meeting hosted by the IAB for all of the liaisons currently provided by the IETF to ICANN functions. Over time, the number of ICANN relationships has grown considerably, and the IAB believes that it would be valuable to increase the coordination among the liaisons to RSSAC, the TLG, RZERC, the newly constituted group on the deployment of IDNs in the root zone, and the ICANN NomCom. This meeting will be the first step in improving that coordination, and the first of the liaison cluster approach mentioned

in the IAB's most recent report.

The second of these meetings will be with members of the RSSAC, to review and discuss their recent document "A Proposed Governance Model for the DNS Root Server System" .

This describes the IAB as a key stakeholder in the Root Server System and bases key principles on IAB technical statements or RFCs; as a result, we would like to ensure that the two groups are well aligned in the aspects of this governance model which touch on the IETF and the IAB.

The third of these meetings is, without doubt, the most controversial: the RFC++ Birds of a Feather session. The discussions which led to this BoF included serious consideration within the IAB and IRTF of creating a new stream for IRTF documents, as well a long consideration of the role that ISE-curated RFCs play in the ongoing confusion over RFCs as standards. As the BoF description notes, that latter problem goes back at least 25 years and was documented as early as RFC 1796. Considering the two problems together caused the IAB to wonder if tackling the whole set of issues together might be more fruitful. The proposal developed within the IAB was to solicit public discussion of an experiment in the use of new labels for the outputs of the IAB, the IRTF, and the ISE, along with a new label for outputs of the IETF which are not standards. A new mailing list for this discussion has been created at rfcplusplus@ietf.org. We look forward to a lively discussion chaired by Gonzalo Camarillo and Sean Turner.

Lastly, I would like to advise the board of a new program in preparation. As you are aware, the public perception of the value of the Internet has changed, with negative connotations for existing platforms and uses of the network becoming more commonly ascribed to the Internet itself. Under the leadership of Christian Huitema and Brian Trammell, the IAB is preparing a program with two basic aims:

To inform the IAB and the wider community about perceptions that something is wrong with "the Internet" by collecting data on the "lost shine" theme and then using this data as the basis for an analysis.

To determine to what extent these forces or phenomena are affordances of the Internet architecture and to what extent protocol design could mitigate these affordances. After that determination, the program will produce an IAB stream document with this analysis, and recommendations for future protocol design and/or IETF process changes.

We intend for this work to be closely coordinated with the Internet Society's work in this area, and we look forward to collaboration with Olaf and his team.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Hardie
for the IAB