

Root Server Operators

March 2026 Meeting Report

On March 24, 2026, the root server operators met online. Representatives from all 12 organizations were present, with 41 individual attendees.

Personnel Changes

The meeting opened with introductions and notice of any personnel changes since the last meeting. Personnel changes at RIPE NCC and NASA were noted.

Alert System Test

A regularly scheduled test of the alert system was conducted. Everyone reported receiving the expected alert notifications via at least one method (SMS, voice, email). There were no reports of missed notifications.

TSIG Key

As part of the procedure for generating a new zone transfer TSIG key, all participants chose and spoke a word or phrase. The words will be collated and provided as a source of randomness when generating the key, which will be distributed after the meeting.

Incidents

During the meeting one significant incident was reviewed. The incident was also previously discussed via email when it occurred.

In December 2025, multiple root server identities were targeted with a volumetric DDoS attack. The attack came in multiple waves, was highly distributed, totaled over a terabit of attack traffic, and lasted just under ten minutes. According to the RIPE NCC's DNSMON page, two root server identities experienced an approximate 30% reduction in availability during the attack, another two approximately 15%, four less than 10%, and five showed no reduction or were not targeted.

Additionally, the operators discussed recent public presentations on "bitflipping" the root-servers.net domain name.

Architecture Presentation

The team from USC/ISI gave a presentation on the architecture and operations for B-root and answered questions from the other RSOs.

Data Collection

Several RSOs provided an update regarding their ongoing contributions to ICANN's Name Collision Observatory.

The annual DITL data collection is scheduled to take place next month (April).

Root KSK Rollovers

The root zone KSK rollover remains in its current phase ("D") until October 2026.

RPKI Status

Service	IPv4 ROAs	IPv6 ROAs	Validating
A	Yes	Yes	No
B	Yes	Yes	No
C			
D	Yes	Yes	No
E			
F	Yes	Yes	No, but monitoring
G			
H		Researching	
I	Yes	Yes	No
J	Yes	Yes	No
K	Yes	Yes	No
L			
M	Yes	Yes	No
SNS	Partial	Partial	

External Communications

No new reports since our last meeting.

Still planning to provide an updated Technical Diversity Report in 2026.

Root Server System Governance Working Group Update

The RSS GWG has concluded its work and provided two documents to the ICANN Board.

Root Server System Advisory Committee Update

An update was provided on the RSSAC001v3 “Service Expectations of Root Servers Operators” work party.

Meeting Expenses

No expenses were incurred for this online meeting.

Two RSOs have volunteered to cover expenses for the summer meeting during IETF 126.

Any Other Business

RSOs discussed the idea of resuming occasional tabletop exercises.