

Root Server Operators

July 2026 Meeting Report

On July 19, 2026, the root server operators met at IETF 126 in Vienna, Austria and online. Representatives from all 12 organizations were present, with 23 attendees in person and 16 attendees remote.

Personnel Changes

The meeting opened with introductions and notice of any personnel changes since the last meeting. Personnel changes at RIPE NCC, NASA, Verisign, USC/ISI, and ICANN 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

Several minor changes in traffic since the last meeting were discussed:

- Several RSOs confirmed an increase in queries with class != IN.
- ICMP (ping) traffic continues to increase from a handful of ASNs that appear to provide residential internet services.
- One RSO noted an increase in refused AXFR/IXFR queries, which was remediated after reaching out to the source ASN.
- RSOs continue to see sharp, hourly spikes in traffic from ASNs associated with a large cloud provider.

One significant change in traffic was noted:

- From June 29 to July 7 traffic for all RSOs approximately doubled in volume. A report on this notable change in traffic will be published on the root-servers.org web site.

Architecture and Technical Presentations

The team from Netnod gave a presentation on the architecture and operations for I-root and answered questions from the other RSOs.

ARL shared a presentation about their recent deployment of DNS-over-TLS and DNS-over-QUIC for H-root.

Verisign discussed controls and safeguards in place relating to production and signing of the root zone.

Root KSK Rollovers

The root zone KSK rollover will transition to its next phase (“E”) on October 11, 2026. At that point the new KSK will be used to sign the root zone’s DNSKEY RRset. Verisign provided a description of what to expect in the days leading up to and following the rollover on that date.

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		Yes	
I	Yes	Yes	No
J	Yes	Yes	No
K	Yes	Yes	No
L			
M	Yes	Yes	No
SNS	Yes	Yes	No

External Communications

The following reports should be published shortly after this meeting:

- December 2025 DDoS attack incident.
- June 2026 week-long doubling of query traffic.
- 2026 Technical Diversity report.

Root Server System Advisory Committee Update

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

Meeting Expenses

Two RSOs have volunteered to cover expenses for this meeting and for the next meeting (IETF 127, San Francisco)

Any Other Business

Remaining time was used to review and discuss a draft Transparency Report.