Danish Comments regarding the IANA Transition

Denmark welcomes the opportunity to provide our comments regarding the IANA transition process. These are our initial comments:

Denmark welcomes the timely decision of the NTIA to transition the stewardship of the IANA functions to the global multistakeholder community.

We would like to reiterate our strong support for the globalisation of the internet governance mechanisms, including the IANA functions, on the basis of the multistakeholdermodel, while safeguarding the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet domain name system.

In order to ensure global legitimacy to the process, it will be of outmost importance to have strong support from the global internet community, including from governments worldwide. As such, it should be of highest priority that the process is inclusive, transparent and accountable to the global internet community. Therefore, encouraging and facilitating global participation – also beyond the ICANN realm – will be a crucial element to this end.

While recognizing that the process and dialogue needs to be structured and carefully managed, it is critical that all global stakeholders have enough time and a real opportunity to participate and agree on a truly global and legitimate solution.

Moreover, Denmark would like to underline the importance of having established the new accountability mechanisms before the actual transition takes place. Any step in the transition process should ensure that the global public interest is taken into account with an appropriate role for all relevant stakeholders, including governments. To this end, a main priority should be the question of ensuring effective oversight and accountability in the new set up.

Furthermore, two parallel processes concerning the future accountability of central internet governance functions – the “IANA transition” and “Enhancing ICANN Accountability” have been initiated and we believe it is imperative that these two processes are coordinated appropriately in order to ensure that the two processes inform and enforce each other.
Lastly, Denmark is following this process very closely and is committed to participate actively together with NTIA, ICANN and the global internet community in developing more globally accountable internet governance mechanisms.

Yours sincerely,

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