**IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group**

**Request for Proposals from Operational Communities**

V 0.6 (ALC)

13 August 2014

**Introduction**

The IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group (ICG) is issuing this Request for Proposals (RFP) from the operational communities of IANA (i.e., those with direct operational or service relationships with IANA; namely names, numbers, protocol parameters), with a target deadline for response by 31 December 2014. During the development of their proposals, the operational communities are expected to consult and work with other affected parties; likewise, other affected parties are strongly encouraged to participate in community processes, as the ICG is requiring proposals that have consensus support from a broad range of stakeholder groups.

Communities are asked to adhere to open and inclusive processes in developing their responses, so that all community members may fully participate in and observe those processes. Communities are also asked to actively seek out and encourage wider participation by any other parties with interest in their response.

A major challenge of the ICG will be to identify and help to reconcile differences between submissions, in order to produce a single plan for the transition of IANA stewardship. Proposals should therefore focus on those elements that are considered to be truly essential to the transition of their specific IANA functions. Where possible and appropriate, distinct alternative options should be identified.

In the interest of consistency, each community is encouraged to review and consider the current IANA Functions Contract between NTIA and ICANN when describing existing arrangements and proposing changes to existing arrangements.

The ICG is expecting that each operational community will submit a proposal that contains the elements described in the following sections. One proposal is expected from the protocol parameters community and one proposal is expected from the numbering community. From the naming community, either two proposals (one for gTLDs and one for ccTLDs) or one unified proposal will be welcome.

Operational communities are requested to describe the elements delineated in the sections below in as much detail possible, and according to the suggested format/structure, to allow the ICG to more easily assimilate the results. While each question is narrowly defined to allow for comparison between answers, respondents are encouraged to provide further information in explanatory sections, including descriptive summaries of policies/practices and associated references to source documents of specific policies/practices. In this way, the responses to the questionnaire will be useful at the operational level as well as to the broader stakeholder communities.

**Required Proposal Elements**

1. **Description of Community’s Use of IANA**

This section should list the specific, distinct IANA services or activities your community relies on. For each IANA service or activity on which your community relies, please provide the following:

* A description of the service or activity.
* A description of the customer(s) of the service or activity.
* What registries are involved in providing the service or activity.
1. **Existing, Pre-Transition Arrangements**

This section should describe how existing IANA-related arrangements work, prior to the transition.

**A. Policy**

This section should identify the specific source(s) of policy which must be followed by the IANA in its conduct of the services or activities described above. If there are distinct sources of policy or policy development for different IANA activities, then please describe these separately. For each source of policy or policy development, please provide the following:

* Which IANA service or activity (identified in Section I) is affected.
* A description of how policy is developed and established and who is involved in policy development and establishment.
* A description of how disputes about policy are resolved.
* References to documentation of policy development and dispute resolution processes.

**B. Oversight and Accountability**

This section should describe all the ways in which oversight is conducted over IANA’s provision of the services and activities listed in Section I and all the ways in which IANA is currently held accountable for the provision of those services. For each oversight or accountability mechanism, please provide as many of the following as are applicable:

* Which IANA service or activity (identified in Section I) is affected.
* Which policy (identified in Section II.A) is affected, if not all policies listed there.
* A description of the entity or entities that provide oversight or perform accountability functions, including how individuals are selected or removed from participation in those entities.
* A description of the mechanism (e.g., contract, reporting scheme, auditing scheme, etc.). This should include a description of the consequences of IANA not meeting the standards established by the mechanism, the extent to which the output of the mechanism is transparent and the terms under which the mechanism may change.
* Jurisdiction(s) in which the mechanism applies and the legal basis on which the mechanism rests.
1. **Proposed Post-Transition Oversight and Accountability Arrangements**

This section should describe what changes your community is proposing to the arrangements listed in Section II.B in light of the transition. If your community is proposing to replace one or more existing arrangements with new arrangements, that replacement should be explained and all of the elements listed in Section II.B should be described for the new arrangements. Your community should provide its rationale and justification for the new arrangements.

If your community’s proposal implies changes to existing policy arrangements described in Section II.A, those implications should be described here.

If your community is not proposing changes to arrangements listed in Section II.B, the rationale and justification for that choice should be provided here.

1. **Transition Implications**

This section should describe what your community views as the implications of the changes it proposed in Section III. These implications may include some or all of the following, or other implications specific to your community:

* Continuity of service requirements
* Risks
* Service integration aspects
* Description of any legal framework requirements in the absence of the NTIA contract
* Description of how you have tested or evaluated the workability of the changes proposed in Section III and how they compare to established arrangements.

Additionally, NTIA has established that the transition proposal must address the following four principles:

* Support and enhance the multistakeholder model;
* Maintain the security, stability, and resiliency of the Internet DNS;
* Meet the needs and expectation of the global customers and partners of the IANA services;
* Maintain the openness of the Internet.

NTIA has also stated that it will will not accept a proposal that replaces the NTIA role with a government-led or an inter-governmental organization solution. This section should explain how your community’s proposal meets that requirement and addresses the four principles listed above.

**V. Community Process**

This section should describe the process your community used for developing this proposal, including:

* The steps that were taken to develop the proposal and to determine consensus.
* Links to announcements, agendas, mailing lists, and meeting proceedings.
* An assessment of the level of consensus behind your community’s proposal, including a description of areas of contention or disagreement.