Who will decide the future of the Internet?

Historically, Internet governance has been the responsibility of its direct stakeholders in business, academia, and civil society. While the playing field has always been broad and open, as the social and economic significance of the Internet has increased more and more entities have become concerned with its future. Right now, a great many organizations, governmental and otherwise, are preparing to undertake challenging discussions to determine if it is possible to maintain the current self-regulated, multistakeholder model of decentralized governance of the Internet.

What is at stake?

- Continued innovation and evolution of the Internet
- Open and inclusive contributions to policy debates
- Continued consensus-based Internet number resource policies
- User access, stability, and security

We believe a thriving Internet depends on a governance structure that is open, transparent, and representative of all stakeholders. Each one of us must do our part to ensure a healthy and robust Internet.

Principles for the Transition Proposal

The NTIA has communicated to ICANN that the transition proposal must have broad community support and 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; and,
- Maintain the openness of the Internet.

The Stewardship Transition Process

ICANN is responsible for spearheading the development of a proposal by the global multistakeholder community for the transition of the current role played by NTIA in the coordination of the Internet’s domain name system (DNS) along with other key stakeholders. Visit the ICANN NTIA IANA functions’ stewardship transition microsite at https://www.icann.org/stewardship

Based on community discussions, ICANN established a Coordination Group to facilitate the transition process. It consists of 27 individuals representing different 13 communities including the ALAC, ASO, ccS sponsor, GAC, GNSO, gTLD Registries, IETF, ISOC, NRO, RIPE, and SSAC.

The ARIN and NRO Process

The ARIN community is discussing the IANA Stewardship Transition planning process via an open public mailing list to develop a proposal to submit to the Number Resource Organization (NRO). Join ARIN’s IANA Transition Mailing List, to contribute to the regional level discussion: http://lists.arin.net/mailman/listinfo/iana-transition

Each RIR is likewise independently holding regional consultations to bring to the NRO. The next step will be to further consolidate ARIN input with the input of the other four Regional Internet Registries in early 2015 with the goal of coming to a complete submission on behalf of the Number Resource Organization (NRO) to the ICANN. Because there will be a single proposal submitted to the ICANN from the RIR communities, the NRO has established a working group, the Consolidated RIR IANA Stewardship Proposal Team (CRISP Team). Learn more at: https://www.nro.net/nro-and-internet-governance/iana-oversight/consolidated-rir-iana-stewardship-proposal-team-crisp-team.

To share your thoughts directly with this group, join the NRO’s IANA Transfer Mailing list: https://www.nro.net/mailman/listinfo/ianatransfer

RIR ENGAGEMENT IN IANA STEWARDSHIP TRANSITION PROCESS

1 JANUARY 2015: CRISP Team to publish an RIR consolidated outcome for inputs and discussion online by the community

15 JANUARY 2015: Submission of transition plan to the ICG

27 FEBRUARY 2015: ICG to produce draft transition plan

MARCH – MAY 2015: NRO regional consultation about ICG draft transition plan

29 MAY 2015: Submission of response to draft transition plan to the ICG

26 JUNE 2015: ICG to send final proposal to USG

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

&

the Multistakeholder Approach

INTERNET GOVERNANCE = COORDINATION OF THE MANY ASPECTS

INCLUDING

TECHNICAL STANDARDS, POLICIES, INFRASTRUCTURE

GOVERNMENTS
PRIVATE SECTOR
CIVIL SOCIETY

INTERNET WORK & DETERMINE HOW IT IS USED

Who will decide the future of the Internet?

Historically, Internet governance has been the responsibility of its direct stakeholders in business, academia, and civil society. While the playing field has always been broad and open, as the social and economic significance of the Internet has increased more and more entities have become concerned with its future. Right now, a great many organizations, governmental and otherwise, are preparing to undertake challenging discussions to determine if it is possible to maintain the current self-regulated, multistakeholder model of decentralized governance of the Internet.
What is ARIN’s Role in Internet Governance?

As part of the Internet technical community, ARIN is actively involved in Internet governance discussions both regionally and globally in order to further the interests of the Internet community. ARIN works to advance the understanding of the number resource management model and promote openness and transparency in all discussions that will affect Internet number resource distribution and management today and in the future. Trusted as a key resource for information, ideas, and knowledge, ARIN is an established thought leader in this space.

Diverse voices and viewpoints are key to ensuring that the Internet continues to grow and adapt to meet the needs of all users and organizations that depend on it. The current economics of how users pay for Internet services has allowed for ongoing innovation in delivery methods and access to information. Continued growth of the Internet may be jeopardized by complex charging regulations.

IANA Stewardship Transition

On 14 March 2014 the US government announced a plan transition oversight of the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions contract from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to the global multistakeholder community. The current contract expires on 30 September 2015. Historically managed by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), IANA functions are part of Internet infrastructure and include responsibility for allocating and maintaining the unique codes and numbering systems used in Internet technical standards.

The IANA Functions

The IANA functions consist of the following responsibilities:

- Coordination of the assignment of technical Internet protocol parameters through the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)
- Administration of and coordination of Internet domain name system (DNS) root zone management
- Allocation of Internet number resources to the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs)
- Management of the .ARPA and .INT top-level domains (TLDs)

IANA and the RIRs

The five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) have a long-standing and straightforward operational relationship with IANA. IANA maintains the global pools of Internet number resources from which the RIRs receive allocations to distribute to their communities. The RIRs also coordinate with IANA to correctly register any resources that are returned to the global pools.

The policies under which the IANA operator manages the global pools of Internet number resources are developed via the global policy development processes of the five RIR communities before being passed to the ICANN Board for ratification. This process is documented in the NRO Memorandum of Understanding and the ICANN Address Supporting Organization (ASO) MoU.

The NTIA has no role in developing IANA policies with regard to Internet number resources, nor does it have any operational role in how ICANN implements and carries out these policies as part of the IANA functions.

More information about each is available on the ARIN website at: https://www.arin.net/participate/governance/index.html