CCWG-Accountability Supplemental Final Proposal on Work Stream 1 Recommendations

MARCH 2016
Enhancing ICANN Accountability

As initial discussions around the transition took place, the community raised the broader topic of the impact of the change on ICANN’s accountability.

- The transition would end the U.S. Government’s historical contractual relationship with ICANN.
- This relationship has been perceived as a backstop with regard to ICANN’s organization-wide accountability.

As a result, ICANN launched a second process, parallel but interrelated with the IANA Stewardship Transition process, to examine from an organizational perspective how ICANN’s broader accountability mechanisms should be strengthened to address the absence of the U.S. Government.
Since December 2014, a working group of ICANN community members has developed a set of proposed enhancements to ICANN’s accountability to the global Internet community. This document is being distributed for the consideration and approval of the working group’s 6 Chartering Organizations.
Work Streams

To address accountability concerns raised during initial discussions on IANA Stewardship Transition, the ICANN community requested that ICANN’s existing accountability mechanisms be reviewed and enhanced as a key part of the transition process. As a result, the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) was convened.

**GOAL:** The CCWG-Accountability is expected to deliver proposals that would enhance ICANN’s accountability towards all its stakeholders.

The CCWG-Accountability’s work consists of two tracks:

**WORK STREAM 1:** Focused on mechanisms enhancing ICANN accountability that must be in place or committed to within the time frame of the IANA Stewardship Transition.

**WORK STREAM 2:** Focused on addressing accountability topics for which a timeline for developing solutions and full implementation may extend beyond the IANA Stewardship Transition.
An Unprecedented Multistakeholder Effort

- 203 Members/Participants
  - 31% North America
  - 28% Europe
  - 26% Asia/Asia Pacific
  - 8% Latin America/Caribbean
  - 7% Africa

- 111 Mailing list observers

- 12,400+ Mailing list exchanges

- 205+ Calls and meetings

- 400+ Hours in meetings
Supplemental Final Proposal on Work Stream 1 Recommendations

Structure:

- Core Proposal (52 pages)
- 15 Detailed annexes of proposed recommendations (including a summary)
- 11 Appendices

Translations to be provided in Arabic, Spanish, French, Russian Chinese and Portuguese.

See: https://community.icann.org/x/iw2AAw.
Chartering Organization Approvals

CCWG-Accountability Proposal Approvals

ALAC

GAC

ASO

GNSO

ccNSO

SSAC

CWG-Stewardship
Four Building Blocks

The CCWG-Accountability identified four building blocks that would form the mechanisms required to improve ICANN’s accountability.
Principles / Mission

- Limited scope of what ICANN can do; no “content regulation.”
- Updated definition of role for Domain Names, Numbering Resources and Protocol Parameters.
- Incorporate Affirmation of Commitment (AoC) reviews.
- Commitment to Human Rights.
Independent Appeals & Review Mechanisms

**SELECTION**
- Community identifies and proposes candidates
- Board to confirm

**EXPERTISE**
- Legal expertise
- ICANN + DNS expertise
- Access to other experts

**DIVERSITY EFFORTS**
- Incl. no more than 2 per ICANN region

**IRP STANDING PANEL (7 MIN.)**

**SELECTION**
- From standing panel
- Each party chooses 1 panel member
- Third chosen by other 2 members

**EXPERTISE**
- Relevant to dispute
- Access to other experts

**DECISIONS**
- Binding on ICANN

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**THE PRINCIPLES**

1. Bylaws
   - Changes to existing
   - Some become fundamental
   - Adding: new mechanisms, AOC reviews, human rights

2. Independent Appeals & Review Mechanisms
   - Improved IRP

3. ICANN Board of Directors
4. Empowered ICANN Community
   - 7 community powers
ICANN Board of Directors

- Clarify Board obligations with regards to consideration of GAC Advice.
- Include the review of SO and AC accountability mechanisms in the independent structural reviews performed on a regular basis.
Empowered ICANN Community

Powers exercised by five groups within the ICANN community, recognized as a “Sole Designator.”

Strong focus on Engagement and Escalation, before Enforcement.
The Stewardship Transition proposal from names community is dependent on a set of accountability improvements.

The CWG-Stewardship has confirmed its conditions have been met.

- **ICANN and PTI Budget**: Community rights regarding the development and consideration of the ICANN and PTI Budgets.

- **ICANN Board**: Community rights regarding the ability to appoint/remove Directors of the ICANN Board, and recall the entire Board.

- **ICANN Bylaws**: Incorporation of the following into ICANN’s Bylaws: IANA Function Review, Customer Standing Committee and the Separation Process.

- **Fundamental Bylaws**: All of the foregoing mechanisms are to be provided for in the ICANN Bylaws as Fundamental Bylaws.

- **Independent Review Panel**: Should be made applicable to IANA Functions and accessible by managers of top-level domains.

- **PTI Separation**: Review of ICANN Board decision relating to reviews of IANA functions, including the triggering of any PTI separation process.
Timeline and Next Steps

- **Chartering Organizations consider WS1 Recs**
- **CWG-Stewardship assesses if dependencies have been met**
- **CWG-Stewardship confirms that dependencies have been met**
- **ICANN submits Final Proposal to ICANN Board**
- **CCWG-ACCT submits WS1 Proposal to ICANN Board**
- **ICANN Board publishes resolution, submits proposals to NTIA**
- **NTIA receives proposals from ICANN Board**
- **NTIA begins 60 to 90-day Inter-agency Review Process**
- **Congressional hearing(s) expected first or second week post-Marrakech**

**FEBRUARY 2016**

**MARCH 2016**
Committing to Further Accountability Work in Work Stream 2

As part of Work Stream 2, the CCWG-Accountability proposes that further enhancements be made to a number of designated mechanisms and processes and to refine the operational details associated with some of its recommendations for Work Stream 1.

It is intended that Work Stream 2 will be completed by the end of 2016.
Why Does it Matter?

The CCWG-Accountability proposal:

- Delivers the improvements of ICANN’s accountability that must be in place before the IANA Stewardship Transition.

- Secures further accountability enhancements for the future, starting with the upcoming Work Stream 2 efforts.