The NTIA Transition

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Background

• March 2014: NTIA announced intention to transition away from oversight of the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions

• IANA functions include serving as global registry of Internet number resources (IP addresses, AS Numbers)
  - RIPE and RIPE NCC key IANA stakeholders
  - Other functions include DNS root zone management and protocol parameter registries

• ICANN contracted by NTIA to manage IANA functions operation (since 1998)
RIPE NCC and IANA

- RIPE NCC (and other RIRs) obtain number resources from (and occasionally return them to) the IANA pool
- This is done according to policies developed globally by the RIR communities
  - Passed to ICANN for ratification/implementation via the NRO Number Council, acting as the ASO Address Council
- Even those interactions quite limited…
  - One or two resource requests per year
Global Internet Number Resource policy is developed through a bottom-up open and inclusive approach. Beginning in geographic regions, issues are raised through the Regional Internet Registry communities in the Number Resource Organization (NRO) and brought into the Address Supporting Organization (ASO). Global policies are forwarded to the ICANN Board of Directors and upon ratification, new policy is implemented through the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) working cooperatively with the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) and their constituencies in the respective regions.

Each RIR community must ratify an identical version of the proposed policy. This policy is then forwarded by the ASO AC to the ICANN Board for ratification. Global policies must first be ratified by the RIRs. Local policies are implemented by the RIRs and the ASO.

The NRO represents the 5 RIRs defined regional policies. The NRO and NRO Advisory Committee (NOMCOM) are responsible for defining and ratifying regional policies. The NRO Advisory Committee (NOMCOM) contributes three members to the Address Council.

The internet ecosystem consists of a collaborative network of organizations responsible for standardization, coordination, administration and day-to-day management in the Internet spheres including the IETF, ICANN, the IANA function, the RIRs, governments, IGOs and NGOs; and many others. Each organization has a specific role and provides fundamental value to the overall functioning of the Internet.

The ASO AC oversees the global policy development process for the creation of global Internet number resource policies, and delivers agreed policies to ICANN’s Board of Directors for ratification.

The ASO AC appoints members to the ICANN Board, the ICANN Review Teams, the NOMCOM and other ICANN entities. The ASO exists within the ICANN organization has a specific role and provides fundamental value to the overall functioning of the Internet.

The ICANN Board ratifies global Internet Number Resource policies for implementation.

Internet Number Resources (IP addresses, IPv6 addresses and AS Numbers) are managed and allocated by the RIRs within their geographic regions, according to defined regional policies.

The ICANN NCC and ICANN’s Board are responsible for the global Internet number resource policies for implementation.
IANA Relationships

RIRs

RIR communities

IANA

Names

Numbers

Protocols

NRO ASO NC AC

ICANN

NTIA

Policy-making

Operational

Contractual
What Is Oversight?

• “Oversight” has historically sat with U.S. Government
  - Dept. of Defence (ARPA), then Dept. of Commerce (NTIA)
• Generally very hands-off
  - NTIA has no direct role in policy-making or operational implementation for Internet number resources
• Significant role: making/holding/changing contract for IANA operational management
  - Past contract renewals have included updating of service terms, often with input from IANA stakeholders
    - See NRO submission to NTIA in 2011
Transition Process

• NTIA statement established certain ground rules:
  - Global, multi-stakeholder process convened by ICANN
  - Any proposal must meet certain requirements:

  ...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.
Open Questions

- What do these NTIA requirements mean for a new oversight arrangement?
  - To what extent must this oversight be “multistakeholder”?
  - Do major changes risk the “security, stability, and resiliency of the Internet DNS”?
  - How does oversight (particularly of the Internet number resource function) affect “openness of the Internet”?

- Where do the RIR communities fit into a future model?
  - …and what would that mean for our community processes?
How Will RIPE Contribute?

- ICANN has established the ianatransition@icann.org mailing list
  - Also looking at a steering committee/coordination group to channel global input
- RIPE discussion will take place primarily within the Cooperation Working Group
  - There will also be discussion in other forums (MENOG, ENOG), RIPE NCC regional meetings
  - Output from these discussions will be fed into the global process
  - The RIPE NCC will facilitate coordination with other RIR communities