



COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT TRANSITION PROPOSAL OF CROSS COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP (CWG) ON NAMING RELATED FUNCTIONS FROM NIGERIA INTERNET REGISTRATION ASSOCIATION (NIRA).

APPRECIATION

NIRA wishes to first appreciate the enormous work and detailed explanations done by the CWG on the naming related functions of IANA. We salute the spirit of cooperation and volunteerism at work here and the tremendous progress made within the shortest time period.

The dedication of members of the CWG to seeing that the task is accomplished is highly commendable. The quantum of emails and conference calls undertaken since the beginning of the task is highly appreciated. The rate of fine tuning of the proposals is very encouraging. We look forward to a robust proposal that will not only be inclusive but also in all fours, a multi-stakeholder, bottom up driven proposal.

We also look forward to a consolidated proposal that will take into account other operational communities' related functions of the IANA.

Below are some of the high point comments:

1. NTIA transiting into Four Structures

Contract Co.

We are interested in seeing the separation of IANA function operator from ICANN without creating several new legal entities similar to ICANN. The principle of separation is a welcoming one and should be upheld as the basis of the proposal. However, we expect changes to be as minimal as possible, speaking from ccTLD point of view.

Replacing the NTIA oversight function with 4 different entities looks too wielding from the perspective of what really is being transited

We do not support the creation of Contract Co. We believe it is not necessary as NIRA believes the MRT which can stand on its own (if properly structured) and can enter into MoU with IANA function Operator is strong oversight mechanism.

MRT

NIRA supports the proposed MRT and its functions but without the Contract Co attachment. The entity should include stakeholders outside ICANN constituencies and should be independent of the ICANN Board. It should be positioned to contract with the IANA Functions Operator and has the powers to call for a rebid in the event of unsatisfactory performance of the current operator in service delivery.

We support the adoption of the contract contents of the NTIA contract except for C2.1 dealing with exclusive country location of the IANA function operator to USA based company or organization. It is our considered opinion that this clause be deleted in the MoU.

2. Direct Customer of IANA - CSC

NIRA is happy with the current services it receives from IANA on re-delegation and root zone updates, etc.

We believe that the CCs as direct customers to IANA should have direct oversight on how its policies are being implemented on delegation and re-delegation, root zone changes, etc. For this, we support the proposal of CSC as long as every ccTLD has a say on:

- (1) how the oversight is carried out,
- (2) respect to national laws and public policies,
- (3) monitoring of performance by the IANA function operator.

ICANN Board should not be the final authority on Delegation and re-delegation processes or root zone management.

We make this suggestion taking into account the sovereignty nature of the ccTLDs the defined sources of policies to be followed by the IANA function operator.

In addition to what has been proposed by CWG, NIRA suggests the following be further considered:

“ that each request for delegation and re-delegation should be made public by the requesting ccTLD to the ccTLD community for comments within a specified time frame, and also allow CC community to give authority/endorsement to the request. The same goes for root zone and WHOIS management activities of the IANA function Operator. In this way, the ccTLDs would perform the oversight function. Since not all ccTLDs belong to the ccNSO, NIRA thinks a percentage, say 75%, of this IANA customers “CC” would give legitimacy to the authority/endorsement to the activities of the IANA function operator relating to the cc naming functions.”

Other functions proposed for CSC relating to Gs naming related functions are generally acceptable to NIRA.

NIRA supports the Independent Appeals Panel (IAP) as propose by the CWG.

NIRA also believes that the accountability issues in the transition should form part of proposal to the ICG by the CWG considering that the two overlap in some aspects of developing an acceptable and workable mechanism of the transition.

We shall continue to follow as the proposal is getting improved upon by the CWG.

About NIRA

NIRA is the manager of .ng TLD which is the country code top level domain of Nigeria. The Internet Community in Nigeria represented by NIRA signed an agreement with the Federal Government of Nigeria to manage its ccTLD Registry.

