Response from COA:

1. Do you believe that the transition from the NTIA should happen (Please provide the reasons for your answer)?

Yes, if accompanied by significant enhancements in ICANN's accountability to the community (at least work stream 1 enhancements must be in place) and guarantees of respect for the rule of law (including protection of copyright and other intellectual property rights).

2. Are you comfortable with ICANN as policy-maker also being the IANA operator without the benefit of external oversight?

Yes, if accompanied by significant accountability enhancements as noted above.

3. Should registries, as the primary customers of the IANA functions, have more of a say as to which transition proposal is acceptable?

No. Registries should have a significant role in oversight of the IANA functions relating to domain names after transition. However, the transition proposal itself needs to be acceptable to all stakeholders.

4. What does functional separation of IANA from ICANN mean to you? (this is not referring to having another operator than ICANN performing the IANA functions but rather the internal separation between ICANN and IANA in the context where ICANN is the IANA operator)

[no response at this time]

5. Do you believe the IANA function is adequately separated from ICANN under the current arrangements (internal separation)?

Yes.

6. In considering the key factors (such as security and stability, ease of separating the IANA function from ICANN, quality of services, accountability mechanisms etc.) for evaluating the various transition proposals what importance would you give to the ability to separate IANA from ICANN (separability) vs. the other factors?

The transition proposal needs to provide a potential pathway to assigning the IANA functions to an entity other than ICANN. However, this is a lower priority than putting into place enhanced accountability mechanisms, which could reduce the risk that any separability needs to occur in the future.

7. Given the IANA functions could be separated from ICANN do you believe it would be important for the community to obtain from ICANN on an annual basis the costs for operating IANA including overhead costs? Would it be important to separate out the costs associated with address and protocol functions?

Yes and yes.

8. Could there be unforeseen impacts relative to selecting a new operator for the IANA functions vs the ICANN policy role (should ICANN determine that there will be another round of new gTLDs, how could it ensure that the new operator would accept this)?

Since you have cited it, this is a foreseen impact, which should be taken into account in designing the potential pathway toward separability of the IANA function from ICANN.

9. Are there other transition models which the CWG should be exploring?

To our knowledge, the models proposed are sufficient, but we do not rule out the possibility that improved models could arise from the discussion over the proposed model.