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| **III.A.2 Oversight and Accountability - NTIA acting as Root Zone Management Process Administrator** | |
| **Background / Current State** | |
| Currently the NTIA acting as the Root Zone Management Process Administrator must approve all changes to the Root Zone itself or the Root Zone Whois database that are proposed by IANA before they can be implemented. To the CWG’s knowledge, there has never been a case where NTIA did not authorize a change request. As documented by NTIA at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/ntias_role_root_zone_management_12162014.pdf>, what NTIA largely does is to verify the change request is correctly formatted (see page 8) (note, these change requests are now automated). The CWG needs to decide if this function needs to be replaced post-transition and if so how. In doing so, the CWG considered the following three options:   * Remove the authorization requirement; * Replace NTIA with a single authorizer; or * Replace NTIA with multiple authorizers. | |
| **Issues Identified & Rationale for Changes, if any** | |
| In its deliberations, the CWG noted that:   * There is the need for robust and secure procedures that should eliminate the risk of any mistakes as far as possible; * At the same time, what is currently reviewed by NTIA is 1) Did ICANN follow the change notification process correctly? 2) Transmitted securely? 3) Includes the standard set of information (i.e., summary of requested changes)? 4) Self-certification from ICANN that processes followed? 4) Request for authorization? – NTIA does not verify or have access to any information about the circumstances under which the request was lodged; * Change requests are now automated which appears to eliminate the need for verification of whether all information has been entered and correctly formatted; * There is the need to not have any other entity have any powers on IANA when all the policies and processes have been followed, specifically not in ccTLD delegation/redelegation matters.   As a result of these considerations, the CWG recommends that: | |
| **Appendix 1 - Authoritative Root Zone Management Process** | **Proposed Language** |
| See page 15 - <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/sf_26_pg_1-2-final_award_and_sacs.pdf> | [Provide your recommended language and/or changes to existing language for inclusion in the Statement of Work] |