

Framework for Transition to Successor IANA Operator (DT-L)

The CWG recommends the continuation, with modifications, of a transition framework for the IANA functions should it be necessary for the IANA functions to be transitioned from the incumbent IANA operator to a successor IANA operator. This framework is based upon the current NTIA-ICANN contract clause C.7.3 “Plan for Transition to Successor Contractor”. The transition framework should be part of the operations and management of the IANA functions going forward and be considered part of the operator’s business contingency and continuity of operations planning.¹ This is a framework only and it is expected – as per the following recommendations – that a full plan will be developed post-IANA stewardship transition. The principles and recommendations for the future evolution of the Framework for Transition to Successor IANA Operator include:

1. The integrity, stability and availability of the IANA functions must be the core concern during any transition of the IANA functions;
2. The transition framework should be further developed into a detailed, fully functional, transition plan within 18 months of the date of implementation of the overall IANA stewardship transition;
3. The budget for IANA operations should be augmented with specific funding for the detailed transition plan development referred to in 2;
4. The process established for the potential transitioning of the IANA functions to an operator other than the incumbent (the escalation process) should specifically recognize that the detailed transition plan referred to in 2 must be in place before the commencement of the transitioning process;
5. Both the incumbent and the successor IANA functions operators will be required to fully engage in the transition plan and to provide appropriate transition staff and expertise to facilitate a stable transition of the IANA functions.

¹ We note that the ICANN Contingency and Continuity of Operations Plan (CCOP) was the subject of a DIDP that was refused.