

ICANN MISSION STATEMENT (Frozen Draft of 17 April 2015)

Current Bylaws Language	Working Draft (new/changed text appears in red or strike-out text)	Notes, Comments, Questions
<p>The mission of The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ("ICANN") is to coordinate, at the overall level, the global Internet's systems of unique identifiers, and in particular to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems. In particular, ICANN:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinates the allocation and assignment of the three sets of unique identifiers for the Internet, which are Domain names (forming a system referred to as "DNS"); Internet protocol ("IP") addresses and autonomous system ("AS") numbers; and Protocol port and parameter numbers. Coordinates the operation and evolution of the DNS root name server system Coordinates policy development reasonably and appropriately related to these technical functions. 	<p>The mission of The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ("ICANN") is to coordinate, at the overall level, the global Internet's systems of unique identifiers, and in particular to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems. In particular, ICANN:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinates the allocation and assignment of the three sets of unique identifiers for the Internet, which are Domain names (forming a system referred to as "DNS"); Internet protocol ("IP") addresses and autonomous system ("AS") numbers; and Protocol port and parameter numbers. Coordinates the operation and evolution of the DNS root name server system Coordinates policy development reasonably and appropriately related to these technical functions. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>In this role, with respect to domain names, ICANN's mission is to coordinate the development and implementation of Consensus Policies (as defined in Specification 1) that (a) ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique names systems and (b) for which uniform or coordinated resolution is reasonably necessary to facilitate the openness, interoperability, resilience, security and/or stability of the DNS.</i> <i>In this role, with respect to IP addresses and AS numbers, ICANN's mission is to [INSERT]</i> <i>In this role, with respect to protocol port and parameter numbers, ICANN's mission is to [INSERT]</i> <i>In this role, with respect to the DNS root server system, ICANN's mission is to [INSERT]</i> <p>ICANN shall not undertake any other mission not specifically authorized in these Bylaws. Without in any way limiting the foregoing absolute prohibition it is expressly noted that ICANN shall not engage in or use its powers to attempt the regulation of services that use the Internet's unique identifiers, or the content that they carry or provide.</p>	<p><i>The additional language is intended clarify, but not to either diminish or expand ICANN's current Mission. The proposed mission statement also reflects ICANN's obligation under the Affirmation of Commitments (AoC) to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Maintain the capacity and ability to coordinate the Internet DNS at the overall level and to work for the maintenance of a single, interoperable Internet. (AoC Section 8.a.)</i> <i>Implement measures to maintain timely, unrestricted and public access to accurate and complete WHOIS information, including registrant, technical, billing, and administrative contact information. (AoC Section 9.3.1)</i> <p><i>In addition to (a) and (b) in the proposed language, Specification 1 in the Registry Agreement and Registrar Accreditation Agreement provides greater detail on the scope of "Consensus Policy" are related to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Functional and performance specifications for the provision of Registry and Registrar services;</i> <i>Security and Stability of the registry database for the TLD;</i> <i>Policies reasonably necessary to implement Consensus Policies relating to registry operations or registrars;</i> <i>Resolution of disputes regarding the registration of domain names (as opposed to the use of such domain names); or</i> <i>Restrictions on cross-ownership of registry operators and registrars or registrar resellers and regulations and restrictions with respect to registry operations and the use of registry and registrar data in the event that a registry operator and a registrar or registrar reseller are affiliated.</i> <p><i>And include, without limitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Principles for allocation of registered names in the TLD (e.g., first-come/first-served, timely renewal, holding period after expiration);</i> <i>Prohibitions on warehousing of or speculation in domain names by registries or registrars;</i> <i>Reservation of registered names in the TLD that may not be registered initially or that may not be renewed due to reasons reasonably related to (i) avoidance of confusion among or misleading of users, (ii) intellectual property, or (iii) the technical management of the DNS or the Internet (e.g., establishment of reservations of names from registration); and</i> <i>Maintenance of and access to accurate and up-to-date information concerning domain name registrations; and procedures to avoid disruptions of domain name registrations due to suspension or termination of operations by a registry operator or a registrar, including procedures for allocation of responsibility for serving registered domain names in a TLD affected by such a suspension or termination.</i> <p><i>The full text of Specification 1 is attached.</i></p>