

Mission, Commitments & Core Values: Key Changes

This chart is provided as an aid in understanding the changes to the Mission and Core Values provisions of ICANN's current Bylaws. The text of ICANN's current Bylaws appears on the left. The text proposed by the CCWG in its 2nd Draft Proposal appears on the right.

While a word for word comparison is not provided, we have highlighted substantive additions in **BLUE**. Substantive Deletions appear in the left hand column in **RED**. General notes are *italicized* and text appearing in **GREEN** reflects proposed clarifications from the 2nd Draft Proposal as published. The current Bylaws include 11 "Core Values."

In the 2nd Draft Proposal, we have changed the order of several of the original 11 Core Values. In this document, we have preserved the current numbering of the provisions in the left hand column, which is why they are not sequential.

CURRENT ICANN BYLAWS		CCWG 2 nd DRAFT PROPOSAL
<p>Section 1. MISSION</p> <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>		<p>Section 1. MISSION</p> <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>
<p>1. Coordinates the allocation and assignment of the three sets of unique identifiers for the Internet, which are</p> <p>a. Domain names (forming a system referred to as "DNS");</p> <p>b. Internet protocol ("IP") addresses and autonomous system ("AS") numbers; and</p> <p>c. Protocol port and parameter numbers.</p>		<p>1. Coordinates the allocation and assignment of the three sets of unique identifiers for the Internet, which are</p> <p>a. Domain names (forming a system referred to as "DNS");</p> <p>b. Internet protocol ("IP") addresses and autonomous system ("AS") numbers; and</p> <p>c. Protocol port and parameter numbers.</p>
<p>2. Coordinates the operation and evolution of the DNS root name server system.</p>		<p>2. Coordinates the operation and evolution of the DNS root name server system.</p>
<p>3. Coordinates policy development</p>		<p>3. Coordinates policy development</p>

reasonably and appropriately related to these technical functions.		reasonably and appropriately related to these technical functions.
		<p>In this role, with respect to domain names, ICANN's Mission is to coordinate the development and implementation of policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For which uniform or coordinated resolution is reasonably necessary to facilitate the openness, interoperability, resilience, security and/or stability of the DNS; and - That are developed through a bottom-up, consensus-based multistakeholder process and designed to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique names systems.
		In this role, with respect to IP addresses and AS numbers, ICANN's Mission is described in the ASO MoU between ICANN and RIRs.
		In this role, with respect to protocol port and parameter numbers, ICANN's Mission is to [to be provided by the IETF].
		In this role, with respect to the DNS root server system, ICANN's Mission is to [to be provided by root server operators].
		ICANN shall have no power to act other than in accordance with, and as reasonably appropriate to achieve its Mission. Without in any way limiting the foregoing absolute prohibition, 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 those services carry or provide.
<p>Section 2. CORE VALUES</p> <p>In performing its mission, the following core values should guide the decisions and actions of ICANN:</p>		<p>Section 2. COMMITMENTS & CORE VALUES</p> <p>In carrying out its Mission, ICANN will act in a manner that complies with and reflects ICANN's Commitments and respects ICANN's Core Values, both described below.</p>

		<p>COMMITMENTS</p> <p>1. In performing its Mission, ICANN must operate in a manner consistent with its Bylaws for the benefit of the Internet community as a whole, carrying out its activities in conformity with relevant principles of international law and international conventions, and applicable local law and through open and transparent processes that enable competition and open entry in Internet-related markets. <i>[NOTE: This language is imported from ICANN's Articles of Incorporation.]</i> Specifically, ICANN's action must:</p>
1. Preserving and enhancing the operational stability, reliability, security, and global interoperability of the Internet.		2. Preserve and enhance the neutral and judgment free operation of the DNS, and the operational stability, reliability, security, global interoperability, resilience, and openness of the DNS and the Internet;
		3. Maintain the capacity and ability to coordinate the DNS at the overall level and to work for the maintenance of a single, interoperable Internet; <i>[Note: Language from AoC]</i>
2. Respecting the creativity, innovation, and flow of information made possible by the Internet by limiting ICANN's activities to those matters within ICANN's mission requiring or significantly benefiting from global coordination.		4. Respect the creativity, innovation, and flow of information made possible by the Internet by limiting ICANN's activities to matters that are within ICANN's Mission and require or significantly benefit from global coordination;
7. Employing open and transparent policy development mechanisms that (i) promote well-informed decisions based on expert advice, and (ii) ensure that those entities most affected can assist in the policy development process.		5. Employ open, transparent and bottom-up, multistakeholder policy development processes, led by the private sector, including business stakeholders, civil society, the technical community, and academia that (i) seek input from the public, for whose benefit ICANN shall in all events act, (ii) promote well-informed decisions based on expert advice, and (iii) ensure that those entities most affected can assist in the policy development process;
8. Making decisions by applying documented policies neutrally and objectively, with		6. Make decisions by applying documented policies consistently, neutrally, objectively,

<p>integrity and fairness.</p> <p>(From ARTICLE II, Section 3. NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT)</p> <p>ICANN shall not apply its standards, policies, procedures, or practices inequitably or single out any particular party for disparate treatment unless justified by substantial and reasonable cause, such as the promotion of effective competition.</p>		<p>and fairly,</p> <p>without singling out any particular party for discriminatory treatment;</p>
<p>10. Remaining accountable to the Internet community through mechanisms that enhance ICANN's effectiveness.</p>		<p>7. Remain accountable to the Internet Community through mechanisms defined in the Bylaws that enhance ICANN's effectiveness.</p>
		<p>Core Values:</p>
		<p>1. In performing its Mission, the following core values should also guide the decisions and actions of ICANN:</p>
<p>3. To the extent feasible and appropriate, delegating coordination functions to or recognizing the policy role of other responsible entities that reflect the interests of affected parties.</p>		<p>3. Delegating coordination functions to or recognizing the policy role of other responsible entities that reflect the interests of affected parties and the roles of both ICANN's internal bodies and external expert bodies;</p>
<p>4. Seeking and supporting broad, informed participation reflecting the functional, geographic, and cultural diversity of the Internet at all levels of policy development and decision-making.</p>		<p>2. Seeking and supporting broad, informed participation reflecting the functional, geographic, and cultural diversity of the Internet at all levels of policy development and decision-making to ensure that the bottom-up, multistakeholder policy development process is used to ascertain the global public interest and that those processes are accountable and transparent;</p>
<p>5. Where feasible and appropriate, depending on market mechanisms to promote and sustain a competitive environment.</p>		<p>4. Depending on market mechanisms to promote and sustain a healthy competitive environment in the DNS market.</p>
<p>6. Introducing and promoting competition in the registration of domain names where practicable and beneficial in the public interest.</p>		<p>5. Introducing and promoting competition in the registration of domain names where practicable and beneficial in the public interest as identified through the bottom-up,</p>

		multistakeholder policy development process.
9. Acting with a speed that is responsive to the needs of the Internet while, as part of the decision-making process, obtaining informed input from those entities most affected.		6. Operate with efficiency and excellence, in a fiscally responsible and accountable manner and at a speed that is responsive to the needs of the global Internet community. [Note: provision re: input from affected parties included in Commitment 5 above]
11. While remaining rooted in the private sector, recognizing that governments and public authorities are responsible for public policy and duly taking into account governments' or public authorities' recommendations.		7. While remaining rooted in the private sector, including business stakeholders, civil society, the technical community, and academia, recognizing that governments and public authorities are responsible for public policy and duly taking into account the public policy advice of governments and public authorities.
		8. Striving to achieve a reasonable balance between the interests of different stakeholders.
<p>These core values are deliberately expressed in very general terms, so that they may provide useful and relevant guidance in the broadest possible range of circumstances.</p> <p>Because they are not narrowly prescriptive, the specific way in which they apply, individually and collectively, to each new situation will necessarily depend on many factors that cannot be fully anticipated or enumerated; and because they are statements of principle rather than practice, situations will inevitably arise in which perfect fidelity to all eleven core values simultaneously is not possible.</p> <p>Any ICANN body making a recommendation or decision shall exercise its judgment to determine which core values are most relevant and how they apply to the specific circumstances of the case at hand, and to determine, if necessary, an appropriate and defensible balance among competing values.</p>		<p>These Commitments and Core Values are intended to apply in the broadest possible range of circumstances. The Commitments reflect ICANN's fundamental compact with the global Internet community and are intended to apply consistently and comprehensively to ICANN's activities.</p> <p>The specific way in which Core Values apply, individually and collectively, to each new situation may depend on many factors that cannot be fully anticipated or enumerated. Situations may arise in which perfect fidelity to all Core Values simultaneously is not possible.</p> <p>In any situation where one Core Value must be reconciled with another, potentially competing Core Value, the balancing must further an important public interest goal within ICANN's Mission that is identified through the bottom-up, multistakeholder</p>

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