

Proposed elements of a letter to NTIA regarding the root zone maintainer role

1. References

- a. Paragraph 1150, section 2) of the ICG's Proposal to Transition the Stewardship of the IANA) Functions
- b. NTIA's statement that "there will be a parallel but separate transition to disengage the NTIA from the Root Zone Maintainer"

2. Introduction

- a. Quote question #1 from the ICG to the CWG Accountability: "1) Due to concerns expressed in the public comment period, the ICG asks the CWG-Stewardship to inform us whether or not the Verisign/ICANN proposal (available at http://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/root_zone_administrator_proposal-relatedtoiana_functionsste-final.pdf) for revising Root Zone Management arrangements after the elimination of NTIA's authorization role meets the CWG's requirements as expressed in paragraph 1150 (sections 2 and 3) and multiple Annexes of Part 1 of the transition proposal."
- b. Quote the first part of the CWG response to the ICG: "The Verisign/ICANN proposal is not a vehicle for amending or replacing the Cooperative Agreement. Instead, their proposal is about how to logistically eliminate NTIA approvals at the moment of transition, and not introduce any risk. The Verisign/ICANN proposal addresses only paragraph 1150, Section 1. Section 2 has not, to the CWG-Stewardship's knowledge, been addressed."
- c. Explain that the CWG requests information from NTIA to ensure that the Root Zone Maintainer function continues without interruption during and after the transition.

3. Questions for NTIA

- a. What is the status of the separate transition process mentioned by NTIA to disengage the NTIA from the Root Zone Maintainer?
 - i. Does NTIA plan to complete that process before the transition?
 - ii. When does NTIA plan to complete that process?
- b. If the transition is not completed prior to the IANA Stewardship Transition, does NTIA plan to amend the Cooperative Agreement to allow Verisign, acting as the Root Zone Maintainer, to implement changes to the Root Zone requested by the IFO without requiring approval from NTIA?
- c. If the Root Zone Maintainer transition is completed prior to, or in conjunction with, the IANA Stewardship Transition, does NTIA have any conditions that it will require in terms of how to ensure that the Root Zone Maintainer functions continue without interruption?
- d. Does the NTIA have any guidance for the CWG Stewardship in terms of what it should do to prepare for the performance of the Root Zone Maintainer functions post transition? For example, would it be appropriate for the CWG Stewardship to develop a draft agreement to be executed between the IANA Functions Operator and the Root Zone Maintainer?

4. Conclusion

- a. Any other information that NTIA can provide about this subject would be welcome.
- b. Timely answers to the above questions would help the CWG Stewardship in responding to the ICG question referenced above and plan implementation details for the transition.
- c. Thanks in advance.