

ccNSO Statement on Transition of NTIA Role in the DNS

March 27, 2014

The ccNSO recognizes the transition of the U.S. government away from its historical role in the management of the DNS is an important moment in the evolution of the Internet. It is a direct result of the success of the institutions that have successfully managed the Internet to this point. As the Internet grows and evolves, so too do the institutions and processes that govern it need to grow and evolve.

We view this transition is the next logical step toward a truly global Internet. As such, the ccNSO welcomes the opportunity to play an important role in the engagement to identify the steps forward for the Internet community. We would also like to express our support for the four principles set out by the NTIA.

The ccNSO council will take the lead in engaging the whole of the ccTLD community in this process. Recognizing the need to engage all ccTLDs and not just those who are members of the ccNSO, we will work with our partners to ensure that they have meaningful opportunity for engagement. We have established a steering committee of ccNSO council members, which will invite others, including representatives from the Regional ccTLD Organizations, to join this committee, and to begin to elaborate the process.

The ccNSO has identified the roles that NTIA plays which any transition proposal would need to take into account. These include:

1. Authorizing changes to the authoritative root zone.
2. Overseeing ICANN's performance of the functions set out in the IANA contract.
3. Overseeing Verisign's performance as the root zone manager.
4. Choosing the operator of the IANA functions and of the Root zone manager
5. Establishing the requirements and specifications under which the IANA functions and the Root Zone Management functions must be performed, and
6. Overseeing ICANN's obligation to develop and implement consensus policies through a bottom up multi-stakeholder process, and to be accountable to all stakeholders for the outcome of its decision-making.