

ICANN BOARD SUBMISSION NO. 2014.03.27

Changes to Globalization Advisory Groups

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

Whereas, as part of its continued globalization efforts, on 17 February 2014 the Board approved the creation of several Globalization Advisory Groups composed of Board members to address the following areas: Affirmation of Commitments (“AOC”), policy structures, legal structure, root server system, the IANA multistakeholder accountability, and Internet governance.

Whereas, the Globalization Advisory Groups were established to provide guidance to the Board in support of ICANN’s globalization work led by the President and CEO.

Whereas, to support and enhance the multistakeholder model of Internet policymaking and governance, on 14 March 2014 the U.S. Commerce Department’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced its intent to transition its stewardship of key Internet domain name functions to the global multistakeholder community. As the first step, NTIA asked ICANN to convene global stakeholders to develop a proposal to transition the current role played by NTIA in the technical coordination of the Internet’s domain name system (DNS).

Whereas, ICANN has now launched the global multistakeholder community discussions to begin the work called for in the NTIA announcement, starting with numerous sessions held during ICANN’s 49th Public Meeting in Singapore. These discussions will be used to develop the mechanism for stewardship transition with respect to the DNS technical coordination functions, and the transition of AOC accountability.

Whereas, with the launch of the global multistakeholder community discussions, the need for and purpose of the Globalization Advisory Groups has evolved.

Resolved (2014.03.27.xx), the Board hereby defers the work of the Globalization Advisory Groups addressing policy structures, legal structure, and the root server system until such time as the mechanisms for stewardship transition with respect to the IANA functions and the mechanism for the transition of AOC accountability are more fully defined as a result of the global multistakeholder community discussions.

Resolved (2014.03.27.xx), the Board hereby dissolves the Globalization Advisory Group addressing Internet governance, and anticipates that the work contemplated to be undertaken by this Advisory Group will be incorporated into the work being undertaken by the Cross-Community Working Group on Internet Governance.

Resolved (2014.03.27.xx), the Board hereby dissolves the Globalization Advisory Group addressing IANA multistakeholder accountability, and directs that the work contemplated to be undertaken by this Advisory Group be considered as part of the recently initiated global multistakeholder community discussion that will help develop the mechanism for stewardship transition with respect to the DNS technical coordination or IANA functions.

Resolved (2014.03.27.xx), the Board hereby dissolves the Globalization Advisory Group addressing the AOC, and directs that the work contemplated to be undertaken by this Advisory Group be considered as part of the recently initiated global multistakeholder community discussion that will be used to help develop the mechanism for the transition of AOC accountability.

Rationale for Resolution 2014.03.27.xx

This resolution follows on from the Board's 17 February 2014 resolution creating several Globalization Advisory Groups composed of Board members to address the Affirmation of Commitments,

policy structures, legal structure, root server system, the IANA multistakeholder accountability, and Internet governance. The creation of the Globalization Advisory Groups was a continuation of the Board's mandate to ICANN's President and CEO to explore how ICANN could coordinate with stakeholders from across the globe to address the pressing issue of the future of Internet governance. The Globalization Advisory Groups were contemplated to provide guidance to the Board in support of these matters.

The landscape of ICANN's globalization efforts since the Board created the Globalization Advisory Groups one month ago has changed. Specifically, on 14 March 2014, the U.S. Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced its intent to transition its oversight of key Internet domain name functions to the global multistakeholder community. As the first step, NTIA asked ICANN, and ICANN has begun, to convene global stakeholders to develop a proposal to transition the current role played by NTIA in the coordination of the Internet's domain name system (DNS) unique identifiers. The Board's action today recognizes the need for modification of the Globalization Advisory Groups' remit as a result of this changed landscape.

Because of the immediate focus needed on the processes that will be used to develop the mechanism for stewardship transition with respect to the technical coordination functions and the mechanism for the transition of AOC accountability, the Board is taking action to redirect the work initially contemplated to be undertaken by the Globalization Advisory Groups. In particular, the Board has determined that the work of the Globalization Advisory Groups addressing policy structures, legal structure, and the root server system should be deferred for a time. Deferring the work of these groups will give the global multistakeholder community the time to discuss, evaluate and begin to formulate stewardship and accountability transition plans.

Additionally, the Board has determined that the work of the Globalization Advisory Groups addressing Internet governance, IANA multistakeholder accountability, and the AOC, should be undertaken by other groups and processes, and that these Advisory Groups be de-commissioned. In the case of Internet governance, the Board has determined that the Cross-Community Working Group on Internet Governance, which includes members from the various aspects of ICANN's multistakeholder community, is well suited to address and advise on such issues. In the case of the IANA multistakeholder accountability and the AOC, the Board has determined that it would be opportune for these topics to be addressed as part of the recently initiated transition discussions, which are intended to eventually help develop the mechanism for stewardship transition with respect to the IANA functions, and the transition of AOC accountability. Because these three topics are well suited to be handled by these now ongoing community discussions, it is appropriate at this time to de-commission the Globalization Advisory Groups addressing Internet governance, IANA multistakeholder accountability, and the AOC.

There is no anticipated direct fiscal impact from the decision to de-commission three of the Advisory Groups and defer the work of three other. Further, there will be no impact on the security, stability and resiliency of the domain name system as a result of this particular action.

This is an Organizational Administrative Function for which public comment is not required.