

The IANA Transition

The broader picture

ISOC CH

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Content:

- Background and context
- The Internet governance debate
- IANA and the IANA transition
- Outlook

The Internet as a bone of contention

- The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) put a new issue on the agenda of international cooperation: the Internet.
- Recognition of the importance of the Internet as backbone of globalization.
- Clash between the private sector / Internet community and governments.
- Two visions of the world:
 - Bottom-up distributed cooperation vs.
 - Classical intergovernmental cooperation.

The Internet and Internet Governance

The Internet is:

- Built on basic libertarian and democratic axioms
- Deployed outside sphere of government influence
- Its distributed governance model is adapted to the distributed underlying technology
- Based on voluntary collaboration
- With bottom-up decision-making processes

An inherent tension

- The Internet as a borderless technology clashes with the international order, based on the Westphalian model and the UN Charter.
- Some countries are comfortable with the Internet model...
- ...others are not and would like the Internet to respect national sovereignty.

The 90s

- Internet Governance was confined to a circle of insiders
- Two opposed approaches:
 - One approach hands-off and bottom-up:
 - let the technology develop and let technologists get on with their job
 - One approach hands-on and top down
 - bringing the Internet under intergovernmental control, preferably under a UN umbrella (like trade, health, climate change, development, disarmament, human rights etc).

WSIS Phase I

- Goal of WSIS: for Governments to come together to find global solutions for a major challenge
- WSIS: apply traditional governance model for ICTs driven by the Internet
- Geneva Declaration created terms 'Internet governance' and notion of multistakeholder governance
- Formation of Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG)

The Elephant in the Room

- The predominant role of one government: the US.
- IANA, ICANN and the role of the US.
- IANA: The Internet Authority of Assigned Names and Numbers – the core of the Internet!
- ICANN administered IANA on contract on behalf of the US Government.

WSIS Phase II

- Held in Tunis in 2005
- Influenced by WGIG methodology – more open and inclusive
- Governments by and large endorsed WGIG report
- Recognized that “existing arrangements for Internet governance have worked effectively”
- Agreed to convene a new Forum for multistakeholder policy dialogue” – the Internet Governance Forum (IGF)
- Identified need for “enhanced cooperation”

Growing Discontent

- Inconclusive Internet governance debate since 2005
- Governments see limitations in existing multistakeholder processes.
- Cybersecurity an issue of major concern.
- Some governments want to have more control and respect of national sovereignty (and borders)

Snowdon - a tectonic shift in the Internet governance landscape

- Disclosures of massive government surveillance in 2013 caused a tectonic shift in the debate.
- Loss of trust in the current Internet model.
- Scale of surveillance activities was a surprise to most.
- Seen as an attack on the Internet itself.

IANA Transition

- March 2014: US announces readiness to transition its role to the community.
- Limited role of US government - “stewardship” of key resources
- (Stewardship= a light hand on the tiller, not control!)
- Mainly checking that due process was respected when making changes to the authoritative root zone file.

The U.S. Government's announcement

14 March 2014: U.S. Government announces intent to transition its stewardship of the IANA functions to the global multistakeholder community

- ⊙ Asked ICANN to convene global stakeholders to develop a proposal
- ⊙ The multistakeholder community has set policies implemented by ICANN for more than 15 years



Why
now?

The U.S. Government's announcement:

- ⊙ Marks the final phase of the privatization of the DNS
- ⊙ Further supports and enhances the multistakeholder model of Internet policy making and governance

ICANN was asked to serve as a facilitator, based on its role as the IANA functions administrator and global coordinator for the Internet's Domain Name System (DNS)

Transition requirements set by NTIA

NTIA has stated that the transition proposal must have broad community support and address the following four principles:



Support and enhance the multistakeholder model

Maintain the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet DNS



Meet the needs and expectations of the global customers and partners of the IANA services



Maintain the openness of the Internet

NTIA also specified that it will **not** accept a proposal that replaces the NTIA role with a government-led or intergovernmental organization solution.

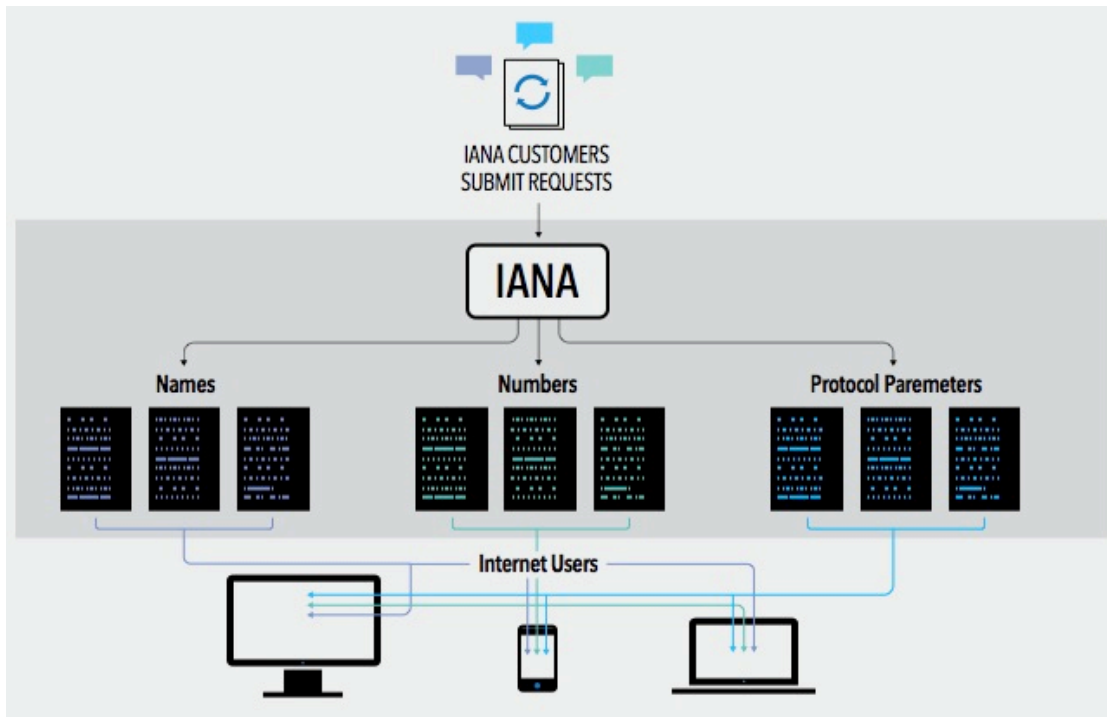
The IANA functions

Three main functions:

- Protocol parameters - IETF
- Internet Protocol (IP) Addresses - RIRs
- Internet Domain names - ICANN

What are the IANA Functions?

The IANA Functions evolved in support of the Internet Engineering Task Force, and initially funded via research projects supported by the U. S. Department of Defense, Advance Research Projects Agency.



These functions include:

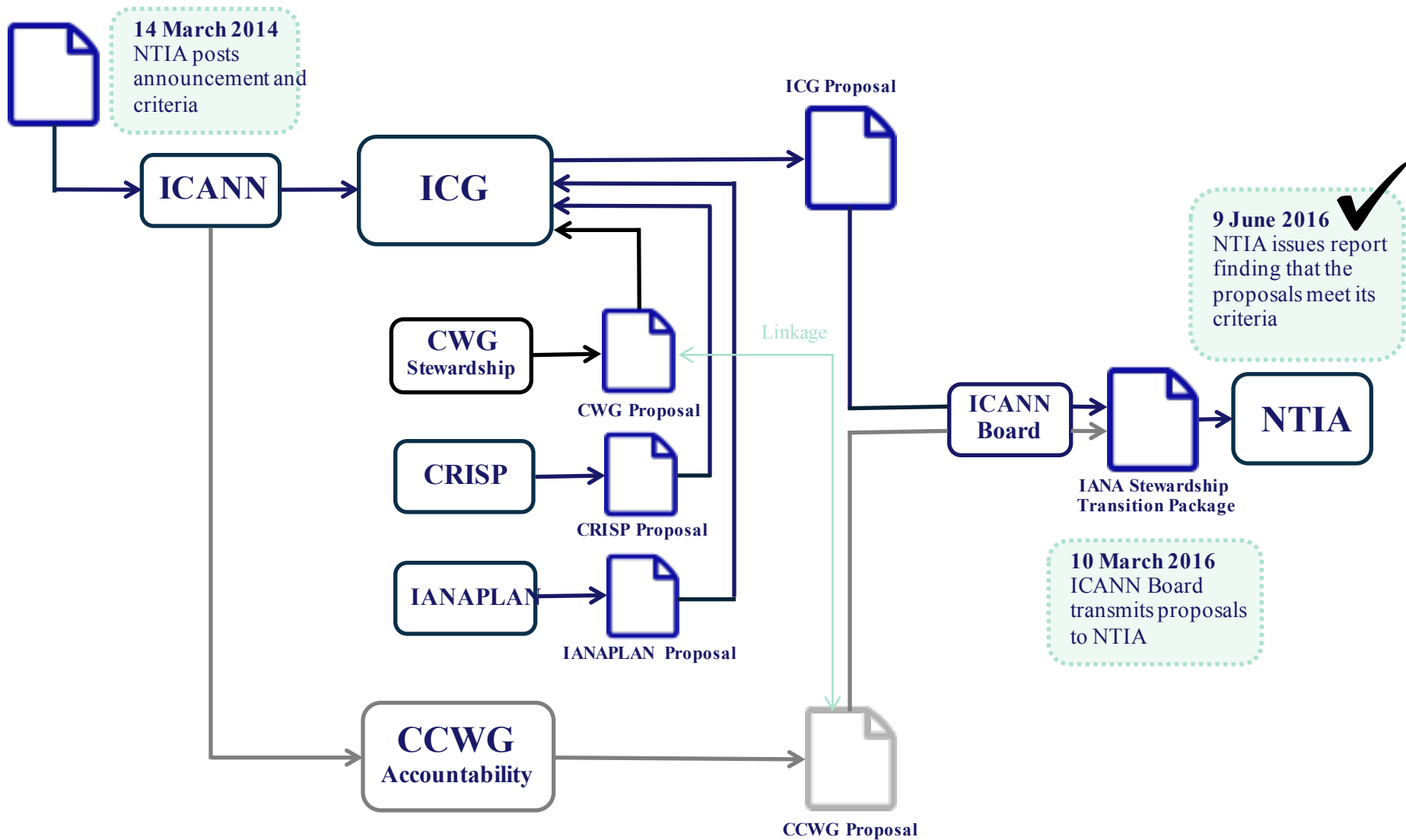
- ⦿ The coordination of the assignment of technical Internet protocol parameters
- ⦿ The administration of certain responsibilities associated with Internet DNS Root zone management
- ⦿ The allocation of Internet IP addresses

ICANN was created to perform the IANA Functions and has done so pursuant to a no-cost contract with the Department of Commerce for over 15 years

The IANA contract

- Contract between the US Dept of Commerce and ICANN.
- Role of Dept of Commerce: ensuring that due process is respected.
- Stewardship over key Internet resources.

Developing Proposals



An Unprecedented Multistakeholder Effort

MAJOR WORKING GROUP EFFORTS



800+

Working Hours in Meetings



33,100+

Total Mailing List Exchanges



600+

Total Calls/Meetings

A SUPPORTING GLOBAL DISCUSSION

More than
1,100

* 590+ Webinars

Events around the world where the IANA transition was discussed, debated, organized and planned

Between March 2014 and March 2016



ICG + CCWG ACCOUNTABILITY

ICG

30

Members

Number Resources
CRISP Team

15

Members
= 3 Members x 5 RIRs

Protocol Parameters
IANAPLAN

2,250

Mailing List Exchanges

Domain Names
CWG-Stewardship

153

Members & Participants

152

Calls and Meetings

CCWG-Accountability

203

Total Participants

28

Members

175

Participants

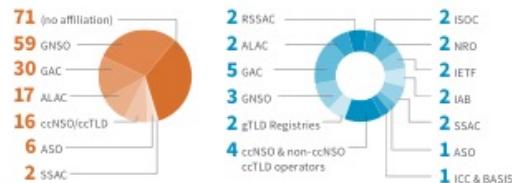
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Mailing List Observers

REGIONAL REPRESENTATION



ORGANIZATIONAL STAKEHOLDER REPRESENTATION



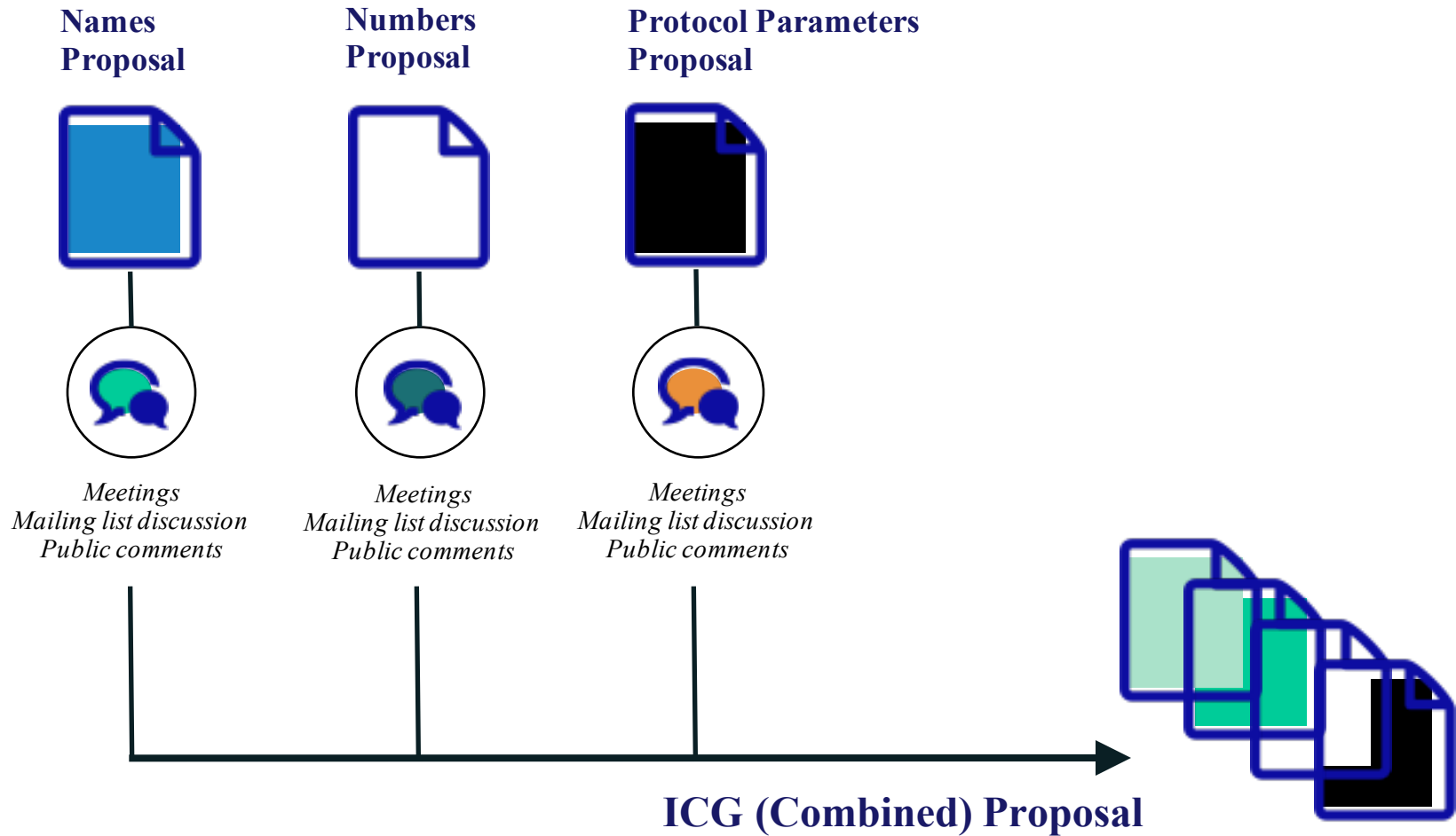
THE TWO PARALLEL PROCESSES

IANA Stewardship Transition

Enhancing ICANN Accountability for the Transition



Transition Proposal Structure



End of US oversight

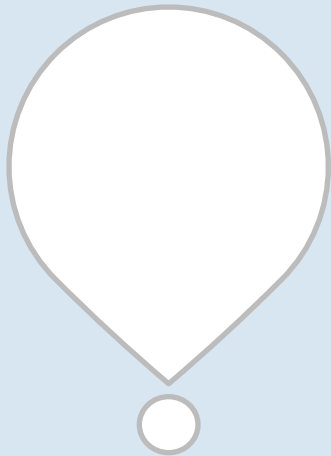
- Question: how to replace US Government?
- Limited role, BUT...
- ...US has a big stick!
- How to create a big stick?

Enhancing ICANN Accountability

As initial discussions around the transition took place, the community raised the broader topic of the impact of the change on ICANN's accountability.

⊙ The transition would end the U.S. Government's historical contractual relationship with ICANN

⊙ This relationship has been perceived as a backstop with regard to ICANN's organization-wide accountability

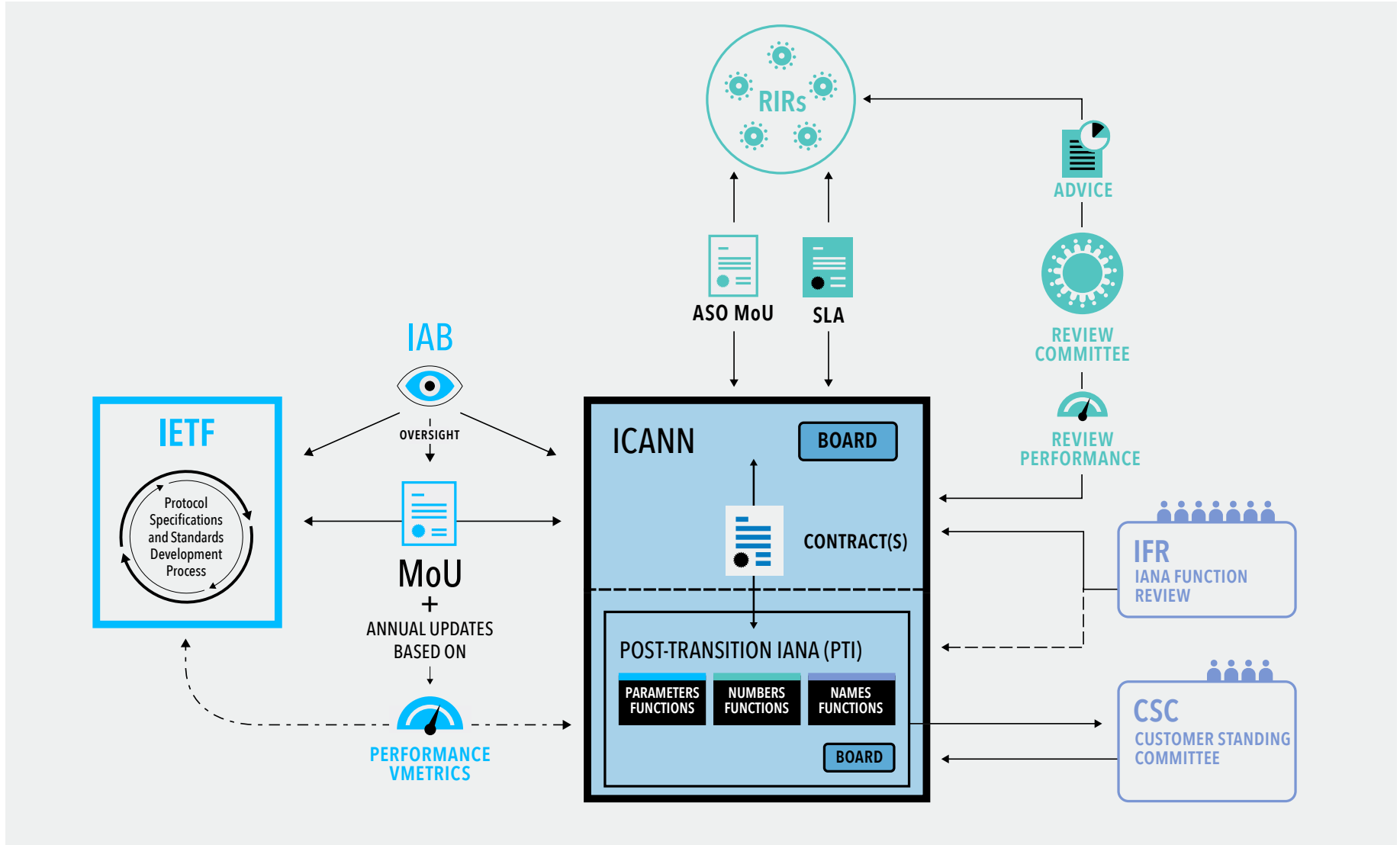


ICANN launched a second process, parallel but interrelated with the IANA Stewardship Transition process, to examine from an organizational perspective how ICANN's broader accountability mechanisms should be strengthened to address the absence of the U.S. Government.

IANA transition: a complex process

- Transition plans for all components of IANA:
 - Protocol – Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)
 - Numbers – Regional Internet Registries (RIRs)
 - Names - ICANN
- In addition: ICANN accountability

Combined Proposal Overview



NTIA Publishes Report

9 June 2016: NTIA publishes its report on the community-developed IANA Stewardship Transition proposals:

“The U.S. Commerce Department’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) finds that the IANA Stewardship Transition Proposal developed by the global Internet multistakeholder community meets the criteria NTIA set in March 2014

”



Supports and enhance the multistakeholder model



Maintains the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet DNS



Meets the needs and expectations of the global customers and partners of the IANA services



Maintains the openness of the Internet



Does not replace the NTIA role with a government-led or intergovernmental organization solution

Importance of IANA transition

- Contact between US Government and ICANN ended on 30 September 2016.
- The IANA transition takes a major bone of contention off the table!
- But: not the end of the Internet governance debate!
- Tensions remain:
 - Internet multistakeholder model vs. traditional multilateral/UN model.
 - Strengthening existing institutions vs. building new institutions or giving authority to the UN?

Outlook

- Ultimately, Internet governance is part of the debate of what kind of Internet we want.
- Do we want an Internet that is:
 - Open, global and interoperable?
 - Based on innovation without permission?
- Do we accept the risks that come with an open Internet?
- Or do we want an Internet that is above all secure and respects national borders?