



USACM Policy Recommendations

INTERNET GOVERNANCE: INTERNET CORPORATION FOR ASSIGNED NAMES AND NUMBERS

Background

The future of the Internet is being shaped by organizations that develop technical standards, set policies, and manage the Internet address system, often without the full participation of the global Internet community. In particular, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) was created in 1998 and is charged with the responsibility for Internet Protocol (IP) address space allocation, protocol identifier assignment, generic (gTLD) and country code (ccTLD) Top-Level Domain name system management, and root server system management functions. These services were originally performed under U.S. Government contract by the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) and other entities. ICANN now performs the IANA function.

USACM Recommendations

USACM continues to defend educational, scientific, and non-profit interests and will work to ensure that the Internet continuously develops as a communications medium beneficial to all members of the global Internet community. USACM's Internet governance efforts and recommendations include:

- ICANN should focus on its core technical mission, namely the coordination of Internet resources on a technical level. ICANN should work more closely with the technical community in carrying out its mission.
- ICANN should include the diverse interests of the U.S. Internet community, including non-profit, research, and education communities.
- ICANN should be more democratic by electing at least half of its representatives from the public.
- As Internet Governance issues are crossing borders into new international policy and advocacy areas, there is a need for enhanced international cooperation with similar public interest/noncommercial advocates.
- The United Nations Task Force on Internet Governance should welcome the participation of USACM and others in the preparation for the second phase of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) in 2005.

For more information, please contact the ACM Office of Public Policy at (202)659-9711.